

ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

VOLUME IX.—NUMBER 17.
WHOLE NUMBER 493.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1871.

SIX DOLLARS PER YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, FIFTEEN CENTS.

Publication Office No. 39 Park Row.
SUBSCRIPTION SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

THE ARMY.

GENERAL ORDERS, WAR DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL Orders No. 68, dated November 4, 1871, promulgates the regulations governing the manner of rendering quartermaster's accounts, etc. It is accompanied by a series of blank forms and covers, 68 pages in all.

General Orders No. 69 covers a proclamation of the President restoring the writ of *habeas corpus* to the county of Marion, South Carolina, which was improperly included in a previous proclamation suspending the writ, and making the announcement preliminary to its suspension in the county of Union.

General Orders No. 72, dated November 10, 1871, promulgates a proclamation of the President suspending the writ in the county of Union, referred to above.

General Orders No. 70 and 71 are as follows:
WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, November 18, 1871.

General Orders No. 70.

I. By direction of the President, the Department of the Platte, discontinued by General Orders No. 66, of the 1st instant is hereby re-established, and paragraph 3, of the said General Orders No. 66, is modified accordingly.

II. Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord is transferred from the Department of California to command the Department of the Platte, and will proceed to the headquarters Omaha, with as little delay as practicable.

III. Until another officer shall be assigned to command the Department of California, the immediate command thereof will be exercised by the Division Commander, Major-General Schofield, and the department staff officers will report to him accordingly.

IV. Paragraph 2, Special Orders No. 498, from this office, so far as Major Ruggles, assistant adjutant-general, is concerned, is revoked, and Brigadier-General Augur, on assuming command of the Department of Texas, will temporarily detail an officer to relieve Major H. C. Wood, assistant adjutant-general.

V. Paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 446, from this office, relating to Major Perry, quartermaster, is revoked. By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.
WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, November 20, 1871.

General Orders No. 71.

By direction of the President, the military posts in Mobile Bay are excepted from the provisions of General Orders No. 66, paragraph 5, assigning the Gulf posts to the Department of the Gulf.

By order of the Secretary of War.
E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending December 4, 1871.

Tuesday, November 28.

UNDER special circumstances, and upon the assent of the department commander, in connection with Special Orders No. 174, of September 30, 1871, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, granting thirty days' leave of absence to Colonel J. Irvin Gregg, Eighth Cavalry, leave of absence is hereby granted him from the expiration of said leave to include December 15.

On the mutual application of the officers concerned, approved by the regimental commanders, the following transfers are hereby announced: First Lieutenant Geo. N. Bomford, from the Seventh Infantry to the Eighteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant James H. Bradley, from the Eighteenth Infantry to the Seventh Infantry. The officers thus transferred will, at their own expense, join their proper stations without delay.

Captain Sanford C. Kellogg, Fifth Cavalry, will report in person to the commanding general Military Division of the Missouri for temporary duty.

Wednesday, November 29.

Sergeant Patrick M. Karigan, Company E, Fourteenth Infantry, now on detached service at Camp Stambaugh, Wyoming Territory, is hereby transferred to Company K, Thirtieth Infantry, stationed at that post.

(No Special Orders were issued from the adjutant-general's office on Thursday, November 20, and Friday, December 1.)

Saturday, December 2.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Chas. Bird, Twenty-third Infantry, in Special Orders No. 143, September 19, 1871, from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended four months.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant David Q. Rousseau, Fifth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 205, November 11, 1871, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby extended sixty days.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant William P. Hall, Fifth Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 182, October 17, 1871, from headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended sixty days.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Silas Pepon, Tenth Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 197, October 31, 1871, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby extended two months.

The leave of absence granted Lieutenant-Colonel Sam-

uel B. Hayman, Seventeenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 292, July 28, 1871 (amended by Special Orders No. 383, September 30, 1871), from this office, is hereby extended thirty days.

Monday, December 4.

Private Arthur M. Reybold, Company B, First Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward, U. S. Army, will report in person to the commanding general Department of the South for assignment to duty. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation, and the Subsistence Department computation of rations at the usual rates.

The superintendent General Recruiting Service will prepare and forward, under proper charge, the following detachments of recruits: Two hundred to San Antonio, Texas, via Indianola, Texas, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding officer Department of Texas for assignment to the Eleventh Infantry; one hundred to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Missouri for assignment to the Third Infantry; all the disposable colored recruits at the depots to San Antonio, Texas, via Indianola, Texas, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding officer Department of Texas for assignment to the Twenty-fourth Infantry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

ARMY PERSONAL.

THE leave of absence for fifteen days granted Second Lieutenant G. E. Overton, Sixth Cavalry, was extended fifteen days November 27.

THE leave of absence for seven days granted Captain S. N. Benjamin, Second Artillery, November 24, 1871, was extended five days November 29.

CAPTAIN and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. C. Lee, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, arrived in New York December 2 from the Pacific coast.

GENERAL Judson Kilpatrick, ex-U. S. Minister to Chili, is about revisiting that country with his wife, who is desirous of seeing again the land of her birth.

DR. W. B. Dods, acting assistant surgeon U. S. Army, was ordered November 14 to proceed without delay to Prescott, A. T., and report for duty to the commanding officer Department of Arizona.

THE leave of absence for thirty days granted Major John S. Walker, paymaster U. S. Army, in Special Orders Department of the Columbia, November 7, 1871, was extended ten days November 18.

DR. John E. Tallon, acting assistant surgeon U. S. Army, was ordered November 15 to proceed without delay to Prescott, A. T., and report for duty to the commanding officer, Department of Arizona.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic for an extension of thirty days, was granted Second Lieutenant C. A. Earnest, Eighth Infantry, December 5.

By direction of the President First Lieutenant Royal E. Whitman, Third Cavalry, was assigned, November 21, to duty temporarily as Indian agent at Camp Grant, Arizona, under the provisions of the act of June 30, 1834.

SECOND Lieutenant Maurice Kraszynski, Twelfth Infantry, being no longer required in San Francisco, by the president of the retiring board, was ordered November 18 to proceed to his station, Camp Mojave, A. T., without delay.

FIRST Lieutenant G. L. Luhn, Fourth Infantry, was relieved, December 4, from duty as a member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, and Surgeon Charles Page, U. S. Army, detailed as a member.

FIRST Lieutenant John P. Walker, Third Cavalry, was relieved from duty at Camp Verde, Arizona Territory, October 21, and ordered to report in person without delay to the commanding officer, Camp Hualpai, Arizona Territory, for duty.

FIRST Lieutenant Theodore J. Wint, Fourth Cavalry, was detailed November 1 as judge-advocate of the General Court-martial convened at the cavalry depot St. Louis, Mo., and First Lieutenant A. G. Forse, First Cavalry, relieved as judge-advocate.

THE leave of absence for seven days granted Captain Richard Loder, Fourth Artillery, November 21, was extended three days December 2, and the leave of absence for seven days granted First Lieutenant Charles Morris, Fifth Artillery, thirty days.

SECOND Lieutenant William Everett, Fourth Artillery, was ordered, December 2, to proceed at once from Fort Washington, Maryland, to Fort Foote, Maryland, and report to the commanding officer of that post for temporary court-martial duty.

IN General Orders No. 70, headquarters Department of the Platte, November 21, Brigadier-General C. C. Augur, U. S. Army, announces his temporary assumption of the command of that department, by order of General Schofield, while awaiting the arrival of General Ord.

PAYMASTER V. C. Hanna, U. S. Army, was ordered December 2 to proceed to and pay the troops at the following named stations, upon completion of which duty he will return to his station in Detroit: Indianapolis Arsenal, Indianapolis, Indiana; Columbus Arsenal, Columbus, Ohio.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to headquarters Military Division of the Missouri

for an extension of thirty days, was granted Second Lieutenant Robert E. Cox, Eighth Cavalry, November 27, to take effect when, in the opinion of the post commander, his services can best be spared.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Frederick Myers, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, is assigned to duty and announced November 20 as chief quartermaster of the District of New Mexico, relieving Captain A. J. McGonigle, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, from duty as such.

IN accordance with instructions from the honorable Secretary of War, First Lieutenant J. E. Batchelder, Second Cavalry, was released November 23, from confinement at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, and ordered to proceed without delay to Windsor, Vt., reporting thence by letter upon his arrival to the Adjutant-General of the Army for further orders.

CAPTAIN Thomas E. Halleck, formerly of President Johnson's staff, and late superintendent of the National Cemeteries, has been discharged the service at his own request, the wounds received in the service necessitating this. Captain Halleck has just returned from a four months' leave of absence to Europe where he had gone hoping to improve his health, but without avail.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending December 6, 1871: Captain S. N. Benjamin, Second Artillery; First Lieutenant E. L. Huggins, Second Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Wessells, U. S. Army; Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. Laidley, Ordnance Department; Captain William Dickinson, U. S. Army; Colonel T. G. Pitcher, First Infantry.

THE following officers reported at headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, during the week ending November 21, 1871: First Lieutenant Alfred B. Bache, Fifth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant J. M. B. Stembel, Ninth Infantry; Major T. H. Stanton, paymaster U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant Thomas M. Fisher, Twenty-third Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Nelson, Twelfth Infantry; Major John S. Walker, paymaster U. S. Army; Captain A. B. Macgowan, Twelfth Infantry.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL C. H. Tompkins, deputy quartermaster-general; Second Lieutenant William J. Ross, Twenty-first Infantry, aide-de-camp; and Second Lieutenant John G. Bourke, Third Cavalry, aide-de-camp, were constituted a board of officers to assemble at Whipple Depot, Arizona Territory, October 23, for the purpose of investigating and reporting upon the claim of Mr. Joseph Tuttle to a portion of the military reservation at Fort Whipple, Arizona Territory.

A BOARD of officers to consist of Lieutenant-Colonel Roger Jones, assistant inspector-general; Major Charles G. Sawtelle, quartermaster; Major John C. Tidball, Second Artillery; Captain James M. Robertson, Second Artillery; Captain George M. Downey, Twenty-first Infantry, were ordered to meet at room 9, Army Building, San Francisco, November 16, to advise with regard to certain details in the construction of a knapsack, covered with sealskin, ordered by the Quartermaster-General to be manufactured in this city.

MAJOR Thaddeus H. Stanton, paymaster U. S. Army, having reported to the commanding general, Military Division of the Pacific, agreeably to Special Orders, War Department, was designated for duty in the Department of Arizona, by orders from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, November 15. He will be stationed at headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, San Francisco, Cal., and be subject to the control of the chief paymaster of the division, under the direction and orders of the commanding general of the division.

FIRST Lieutenant L. E. Campbell, Twenty-second Infantry, was ordered November 22 to proceed without delay to Fort Randall, Dakota Territory, to Sioux City, Ia., for the purpose of relieving Captain J. V. Furey, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, of all the duties heretofore devolving upon him at that station, except that of disbursing officer. Until further orders, Lieutenant-Colonel S. B. Holabird, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, chief quartermaster of the department, will perform the duties of disbursing quartermaster at the Sioux City station.

A GENERAL Court-martial was constituted to meet at Camp Verde, Arizona Territory, October 24. Detail for the court: Captain William Hawley, Third Cavalry; Captain Deane Monahan, Third Cavalry; Captain Alexander Sutorius, Third Cavalry; First Lieutenant George E. Ford, Third Cavalry; First Lieutenant Emmet Crawford, Third Cavalry; First Lieutenant John C. Thompson, regimental quartermaster Third Cavalry; Second Lieutenant E. B. Rheem, Twenty-first Infantry. First Lieutenant John B. Johnson, adjutant Third Cavalry, judge-advocate.

AMONG the contributors to the Chicago Relief Fund, were the officers and enlisted men of Fort Sully, Dakota Territory, who gave three hundred and fifty dollars.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

THE following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company C, Second Cavalry, from Omaha Barracks, Neb., to Sidney Barracks, Neb., November 21.
Company E, Second Cavalry, from Omaha Barracks, Neb., to Fort McPherson, Neb., November 21.
Entire regiment Fifth Cavalry, from the Department of the Platte, to the Department of Arizona, November 10.
Company A, Ninth Infantry, from Omaha Barracks, Neb., to Fort McPherson, Neb., November 21. Ordered.
Headquarters Twenty-first Infantry, from Fort Yuma, Cal., to Presidio, Cal., November 22. Ordered.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Mr. President: The reorganization of the Army required by the act of July 15, 1870, the provisions of which were alluded to in my last annual report, has been accomplished. The enforcement of that portion relating to a reduction of commissioned officers demanded strict investigation of the records of the military conduct and services of supernumerary officers, and forced upon the Department an unpleasant duty. It is believed, however, that the decisions finally reached were fair, impartial, and for the good of the service. In accordance with the same act the number of enlisted men was on July 1 reduced to 30,000; indifferent soldiers were discharged, the standard of recruits was raised with a view to improving the character of the rank and file, and the following table of organization was established:

Enlisted men of engineers.....	301
Enlisted men of ordnance.....	475
Ordnance sergeants at post.....	200
Military Academy band.....	24
60 enlisted men per company for 55 companies artillery.....	3,300
84 enlisted men per battery for 5 batteries light artillery.....	420
84 enlisted men per company for 120 companies cavalry.....	10,080
60 enlisted men per company for 250 companies infantry.....	15,000
Non-commissioned staff of regiments.....	200
	30,000

The staff of general officers was also reduced to the simple requirements of the Army in time of peace, and the line officers thus relieved from detached duty were ordered to their regiments, where they could be of more benefit to the service.

The total expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, were \$80,644,042 76; the expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1870, were \$57,655,675 40, which sum includes \$3,697,500 for river and harbor improvements. The expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1871, were about \$40,000,000, including for river and harbor improvements \$3,945,900. Thus during the year 1869-'70 the reduction in expenses of the War Department amounted to \$22,988,367 36, and during the year 1870-'71 a further reduction of \$17,655,675 40 was made. For the next fiscal year 1871-'72 there is appropriated \$36,530,776, including for river and harbor improvements \$4,407,500.

The total estimate for military appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, is \$52,415,472 85. Of this estimate the sum of \$1,153,607 05 is necessitated by the prohibition of the use of unexpended balances of former years, thus requiring estimates for reappropriation of such sums as have reverted to the Treasury under the fifth section of the act of July 12, 1870. The estimate of the Chief of Engineers for fortifications, improvements of rivers and harbors, public buildings and grounds and Washington Aqueduct, are submitted separately, as presented by that officer, as follows: Fortifications and other works of defence \$3,255,500; for river and harbor improvements \$9,930,200; and for public buildings and grounds and Washington Aqueduct \$446,704.

Up to this date, during the current fiscal year, there has been paid into the Treasury, as realized from the sale of arms and from other sources, during the current fiscal year, \$21,766,403 07.

Under the act of July 27, 1861, providing for the adjustment and payment of the claims of the several States for enrolling, subsisting, and other expenses incurred by them for troops called into the service of the United States, these claims were paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. The act of July 12, 1870, repeals the appropriation clause of the act of July 27, 1861, and requires the proper Department to submit estimates for these expenses, in the usual manner. I have accordingly submitted an estimate of \$3,000,000 for this purpose, that being the amount designated by the Third Auditor of the Treasury as being required for the settlement of claims now pending in his office for the next fiscal year.

The reports of the General of the Army and of the division and department commanders, herewith submitted, will convince the country that the officers and men of the Army have performed the duties devolving upon them faithfully and well. Though these duties, resulting from the determination of the Government to enforce the laws for the collection of the revenue and for the suppression of armed insurrection, have few agreeable features, they are performed with that cheerful energy which is the result of discipline. The records of the Department show that one hundred applications for troops for various purposes, and for military protection, have been made since January 1, 1871, all of which, where the necessity required it, have been promptly responded to.

It is with great embarrassment and difficulty that the appropriations made at the last session of Congress—reduced as they were below the estimates of the Department—can be so economized as to answer the pressing requirements of the service. The operations of active warfare in Arizona, in connection with Indian difficulties there, are such as necessarily require large expenditures, and the causes which have produced this necessity were not anticipated by Congress when the appropriations were made. The officers in charge of these operations—General Schofield, commanding the Division of the Pacific, and Colonel Crook, in immediate command of the Department of Arizona—have united with this Department in endeavoring to retain the expenses at the lowest possible limit, and have used the most judicious efforts in this direction, and the conduct of Colonel Crook in his administration of the affairs of his department has received my full approval. While, therefore, the full appropriations asked should be given, continued endeavor will be made to prevent any expenditures beyond those absolutely essential.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.

I recommend that the extra lieutenants now authorized by law to serve as regimental adjutants and quartermasters in the artillery, cavalry, and infantry regiments, as provided by sections 2, 3, and 4, of the act of July 28, 1866, be discontinued as vacancies occur in those grades. This would effect an ultimate reduction of eighty lieutenants; would result in a yearly saving, if the reduction should be completed, of nearly \$160,000, and would be of no detriment to the service.

It is further recommended that the grade of quartermaster-sergeant for the companies of cavalry, infantry, and heavy artillery be abolished. The duties of this non-commissioned officer before the late war were usually discharged by the first sergeant, and the present strength of a company is such that a return to the old system in this respect can well be made.

With regard to the grades of enlisted men known as company artificer and company wagoner, the state of the service is now such as to justify the recommendation that they too be discontinued and their duties devolved upon a smaller number of private soldiers, detailed for extra-duty service and employed under the direction of the Quartermaster Department. Should this recommendation be adopted, 1,165 enlisted men would be dispensed with, at a gross yearly saving of \$412,740. From this deduct the probable cost of extra duty men, estimated at two-thirds the number of artificers and wagoners, \$72,240, and the net saving will be over \$340,000.

By the act of March 3, 1863, the first six regiments of cavalry are each allowed one veterinary surgeon at a compensation of \$75 per month. By the act of July 28, 1866, the four other cavalry regiments are provided with the same organization, with the additional allowance of one veterinary surgeon to each, at a compensation of \$100 per month; that is to say, two veterinary surgeons are allowed to each of the latter regiments, one at a salary of \$75 per month and the other at \$100. To remedy this defective organization, I recommend that two veterinary surgeons be authorized for each cavalry regiment, at a compensation of \$100 per month, and that the provisions of the acts above cited be repealed.

In the general regulations of the Army, of 1863, a plan is presented by which soldiers who are frugal enough to save their pay shall have a safe deposit for it. The outline is simply this: Not less than five dollars may be deposited at any one time with the paymaster, at pay-day, when a check-book will be given the soldier in which the amount of deposit will be entered. These deposits cannot be drawn till the discharge of the soldier. They are not subject to forfeiture by sentence of court-martial, but belong to the personal estate of the soldier, voluntarily confided by him to the trust of the United States, until he receives final payment on discharge. The benefits of this plan are various. It prevents the vicious practice of confiding money to commissioned officers for safe keeping, which injures discipline by the invariable disputes engendered, and it avoids the lumbering of the pay-rolls by constant entry of pay not drawn.

By the restriction contained in section 7, act of July 12, 1870, which was interpreted by the Treasury Department to apply to these deposits, it became necessary to issue an order for rescinding this regulation, and to cause all the deposits to be drawn from the Treasury by soldiers holding check-books. The amount was considerable, and it is feared many men were induced to desert by thus coming into possession of unusually large sums during their term of service, instead of receiving them when discharged. It is recommended that provision be made to meet this unexpected application of the legislative restriction that the benefits of the regulation may be restored to the soldier.

The law authorizes the enlistment of men who are eighteen years of age, and by its language "the oath of enlistment taken by the recruit shall be conclusive as to his age." The appeals to the department for the discharge of soldiers are almost numberless. The force of clerks employed upon this branch of office duty is not sufficient to answer the repeated applications for discharge, which fill the department mail, and the stereotype refusal which must in most cases be given only stimulates the applicant to obtain renewed appeals from persons of influence and character, who willingly apply to the department with a request for assistance, without reflecting upon the embarrassment which is given, or upon the cost of a result so easily recommended and so difficult to justify. The enlistment of each recruit and the cost of transportation to his regiment involves an average expense of \$80 in each case. By his discharge this amount is a total loss to the Government.

The greater number of those for whom this costly favor is asked are under the age of twenty-one years, and in this connection I recommend that the law regarding enlistments be amended, and that no recruit be permitted to enter the service whose age, by his own oath, is not shown to be over twenty-one years—the oath, as now, to be taken as conclusive.

Experience shows that the age of enlistment for music boys can, with advantage be reduced, and it is advised that the law be so amended that hereafter enlistments in that class of recruits may be made at the age of twelve years.

It was found impossible to prepare in time for submission to Congress at its last session, a system of regulations for the administration of the affairs of the Army, as contemplated by the act of July 15, 1870. A board of competent and experienced officers has been for some months diligently engaged in the compilation of a code of regulations, and the work is rapidly approaching completion.

Desertions during the past few months have largely increased. The reports received at the Department indicate that the reduction of the pay of soldiers from sixteen to thirteen dollars per month has contributed largely to this result, as far as those men are concerned who enlisted prior to July 1, 1871, the date of reduction.

The board of officers directed to investigate the subject of military prisons and prison discipline in the British army, visited last summer the only military prison now in Canada, viz., the one at Quebec, and through the courtesy of the inspector, Colonel H. F. Williams, were enabled to witness its practical workings. The board were very favorably impressed with the good results obtained from this system, which has now been fifteen years in operation in the British service, and recommend its adoption in our own. I invite the attention of Congress to this subject, believing it to be of great importance to the efficiency of our Army, which is greatly impaired by the inadequate and imperfect means of punishment now practised. By having the pay of the convicts forfeited to the prisons, but little, if any, additional means would be required to support them after they were put in operation. The report of the board is full of interest and will hereafter be transmitted to Congress.

THE RETIRED LIST, ETC.

The retired list of the Army is now limited to 300. The endeavor has been to equalize the selections for that list from both the higher and lower grades of the officers entitled to be placed upon it, so that it may not be filled to an unreasonable extent by officers of high rank, and consequently greater compensation. There have been sixteen deaths of retired officers during the past year.

By the act approved September 28, 1850, appropriation was made of \$10,000 for purchasing, walling, and ditching a piece of land near the city of Mexico, for a cemetery for such of the officers and soldiers of our Army as fell in battle or died in and around that city during the Mexican war, and for the interment of American citizens who have died there.

In December, 1869, a report was made by the vice-consul of the United States at the city of Mexico, to the effect that, in consequence of neglect and the want of means for repairs,

many depredations were being committed, and that the cemetery presented a lamentable appearance of dilapidation. An appeal was made to this Department for funds to the amount of about \$1,150, to be sent to the consul to enable him to restore the cemetery to a condition creditable to the United States Government. The War Department was fortunately able to meet the temporary demand, but could not comply with a further suggestion for the employment of a superintendent at a salary of \$50 per month instead of \$20, the rate heretofore paid, and which is deemed insufficient. By the act of July 21, 1852, there was appropriated \$1,412.34, and by the act of August 31, 1852, \$3,000, for the purchase of the cemetery, under the direction of the President, and these sums were all disbursed by the Department of State. It is recommended that, as the general subject of national cemeteries is now administered by the War Department, a special act be passed placing this cemetery upon the same footing as other cemeteries, with a regularly appointed superintendent, and that a sufficient portion of the appropriation for national cemeteries be made applicable to the repair and preservation of the one in question. The latest report of the condition of the cemetery shows that, with the temporary aid afforded by this Department, its condition was very materially improved. An appropriation of \$1,200 is asked by the United States consul to complete the repairs and to construct an artesian well for irrigation, to preserve the shrubbery and save the annual tax for water.

By the tenth section of the act of July 15, 1870, the Secretary of War was required to investigate into what are known as the Montana Indian war claims of 1867, and to report to Congress the names of the persons entitled to relief, together with a statement of the facts and sums upon which such report may be based. The investigation was confided to an inspector-general of the Army, whose report, setting forth the nature and amount of the claims and the amount required for an equitable settlement of them, was submitted to Congress at the last session and commended to favorable consideration.

To complete the investigation, there remained to be submitted a list of the persons entitled to relief and a statement of the award equitably due to each claimant. This list, when nearly finished, was, with most of the papers connected with the case, destroyed in the late fire at Chicago. A greater part of the original vouchers, however, had been returned to their owners after certified copies had been taken, and new copies can consequently be obtained. The claimants have been called upon by advertisement to furnish such copies, or, in default thereof, to file statements of their claims, and in this way the lost evidence will be measurably renewed. With these papers, and such data as survived, a new report of awards can be made which will probably prove as reliable as the one destroyed. This report will be laid before Congress without material delay, its early preparation depending wholly upon the promptness with which claimants respond to the invitation to replace their evidence.

Under the joint resolution approved May 7, 1870, authorizing and empowering the Secretary of War to select and set apart for a permanent military post so much of the military reservation of Fort Snelling, not less than 1,000 acres, as the public interests might require for that purpose, and to quiet the title to said reservation, and to settle all claims in relation thereto, and for the use and occupation thereof on principles of equity, I have selected and set apart for a permanent military post at Fort Snelling 1,521 20-100 acres, embracing the fort and buildings pertaining, and in full settlement and release of all claims in relation thereto, and for the use and occupation thereof, have conveyed to the purchasers of the property the remainder of the reservation, amounting to 6,394 80-100 acres.

The proceeds of sales of clothing from June 30, 1870, to the present date amount to the sum of \$1,875,728 84, all of which, as collected, is turned into the Treasury, and cannot be used by the Department. Some of the purchasers have not been able, on account of the disastrous effects of the Chicago fire, to meet their engagements promptly, but the time of payment has been extended. A great amount of old clothing and equipment is unfit for Army use, and hence larger appropriations will become necessary. The cost of transportation for this year has been about \$1,500,000, which is but little less than for the previous year. The reduced Army is compelled to increased activity to compensate for its loss in numbers.

The appropriation for barracks and quarters has not been sufficient to shelter the Army in a manner essential to its comfort and health, and hence it is earnestly desired that the appropriation asked for that purpose may not be reduced.

Of the Southern railroads which were allowed to purchase rolling stock and other railroad supplies from the United States, twenty-seven have paid in full, and twenty-four are still in debt to the Department in the sum of \$4,724,350 53.

In the office of the Quartermaster-General large numbers of miscellaneous claims for transportation and for stores, taken and used by the Army in certain States and Territories, under the act of July 4, 1864, have been filed, and final action had as far as possible. These claims amount to many millions of dollars, and the large interests involved require that there should be more care taken of these important records than can be given them in the present building, in which a fire would be disastrous.

The number of graves in national cemeteries is 37,850, including 2,295 added during the year. The cemeteries cover an area, in the aggregate, of about 1,800 acres of land, acquired at a cost of \$170,000.

The attention of Congress is asked to the loss and embarrassment resulting from the condition of the title to sites of military posts in Texas. The law forbids the purchase by the Secretary of War of any lands without special authority from Congress. New posts on the remote and unsettled frontier of that State have generally been located on the public lands belonging to the State, as there are no public lands available owned by the United States in Texas. As soon as this Department begins to erect shelter for the troops, speculators enter these lands, and hence claims arise for rent and timber to an amount far beyond their value. An act authorizing the Department to quiet title to sites already occupied, and to purchase such as may hereafter be required, is necessary to remedy the evil.

THE WORK OF THE BUREAUS.

The report of the Commissary-General of Subsistence shows that the Army has been well supplied during the past year. I agree with him that according to the varying necessities of troops stationed in the different climates of the country, there should be authorized for issue substitute articles, so that the food of the soldier may be at times varied from the regular ration. Since the last annual report a detailed statement has been furnished the Department of the Interior of the expenses incurred in the fiscal year of 1869-'70 by the Subsistence Department in furnishing supplies for Indians, which shows the amount to have been over \$1,600,000, of which \$1,200,000 has been repaid by transfer at the

Treasury. It is desirable that appropriations for the subsistence of Indians, when necessary, be made for the disposition of the Interior Department, as the subsistence fund of this Department, based upon the appropriation actually necessary for the support of the Army, is not large enough to allow any portion to be diverted from its legitimate use without embarrassment to the service.

Owing to the deficiency existing in the clerical force of the Surgeon-General's office, a large number of official demands for information from the records of the office for the settlement of pension and other claims have remained unanswered. Under the act of Congress authorizing the appointment of hospital stewards, that force has been strengthened, and it is hoped that the accumulated work will be rapidly disposed of. There were 206 military posts requiring medical attendance on July 1, 1870. The number of medical officers is insufficient for the service, and I renew the recommendation that the law prohibiting promotions and appointments in that corps be repealed.

Part First of the Medical and Surgical History of the War is near completion, and will be laid before Congress during its coming session, when it is hoped sufficient appropriation will be made to continue the publication of the remaining parts. The report of the Medical Statistics of the Provost-Marshal-General's Bureau, the compilation of which was authorized by the act of July 23, 1866, is also nearly completed, and is in process of being printed at the Government printing office. It is expected that the entire report will be printed and ready for distribution during the approaching session.

The Corps of Engineers during the past year has been actively engaged upon the works for the defence of our sea-coasts, on river and harbor improvements, and in surveys and reconnoissances and construction of light-houses. With the appropriations granted for fortifications in our principal harbors, these works along the Northern Atlantic and Pacific coasts have been pushed forward to their modifications as rapidly as the circumstances would permit, and already the batteries are beginning to assume the character needed by the requirements of modern warfare. The modifications referred to look to the strengthening of our works by the introduction of heavy earthen batteries for the largest guns and mortars.

Since the last report the battalion of engineers has been reduced to 354 enlisted men, and constitutes an efficient body of troops, and is carefully instructed and drilled in its duties. The engineer posts and depots of Jefferson Barracks and Yerba Buena Island have been broken up, and the troops are now concentrated at Willet's Point and West Point, New York. Besides assisting in the instruction of the cadets of the Military Academy, the battalion of engineers constitutes the school for the trials with torpedoes for the defence of our harbors, and takes charge of the depots for the bridge-trains and equipment and engineer tools for the use of the Army in general. The appropriation asked for torpedoes and other purposes at the engineer depot at Willet's Point and recommended to Congress.

A visit made to Willet's Point in September last gave me an opportunity for inspecting closely the management of the post, and for observing the advantages offered the men in drill and discipline, and in the education necessary for that arm of the service. The result was very gratifying. The thorough mode of instruction and the perfected drill of the battalion deserve commendation.

Satisfactory progress has been made in the prosecution of works for the improvement of rivers and harbors, and of the surveys connected therewith. The annual report of the chief of engineers contains a detailed account of the progress and condition of these works, and of the results of the surveys ordered by Congress. This report also contains information concerning the public buildings and grounds and the Washington Aqueduct.

Proper measures have been taken to carry out the joint resolution of February 21, 1871, in relation to the establishment of water-gauges, and making daily observations of the rise and fall of the Lower Mississippi and its chief tributaries.

Under the act of April 4, 1871, for the appointment by the President of a commission to examine and report on the Sutor tunnel, Lieutenant-Colonel H. G. Wright and John G. Foster, of the Corps of Engineers, and Professor Wesley Newcomb, a mining engineer, were thus appointed, and Captain W. R. King, Corps of Engineers, was directed to act as secretary to the commission. The commission has completed the investigations at the tunnel and the mines of the Comstock lode, and is now preparing to report.

In the survey of the lakes, operations were carried on in Lakes Superior, Michigan, St. Clair, and Champlain, and the progress of the work in the field and office has been highly satisfactory. The geological survey along the central route of communication with the Pacific coast has been actively continued, and the publication of the results, already begun, is looked for with much interest.

During the fiscal year small-arms and ordnance stores to the amount of \$10,000,000 have been sold, and the entire proceeds, except a small sum retained to meet expense of preparing other stores for sale, have passed into the Treasury beyond the control of this Department. The operations at the arsenals have been confined to the manufacture of supplies required by the troops, to the care of stores on hand, and to the manufacture of one or two experimental gun-carriages. It is hoped that Congress will grant the appropriations asked for to carry out the plans for the continuance of the work at the great arsenal of construction for the Mississippi Valley at Rock Island. Several kinds of experimental rifles and carbines, as recommended by the St. Louis board, have been manufactured at Springfield armory for comparative trial in the field. An inspection of that armory, not long since, satisfies me of the necessity for continuing the appropriations for its maintenance and support. The ability of its present administration especially commends this well-appointed armory to the attention of Congress.

Sufficient information will doubtless be derived from the use of the experimental arms in the field, to enable a board to recommend a breech-loading system for adoption. The armament of State troops should be like that of the national forces, who now use breech-loading small arms. The reserve of 10,000 arms of that kind now on hand is not half sufficient to supply the States upon quotas now due.

Attention is called to the recommendation of the chief of ordnance concerning the repeal of the act prohibiting promotions and appointments in the Ordnance Corps.

An increase of the annual appropriations under the law of 1863, providing for arming and equipping the Militia, is urgently required.

The small clerical force allowed the office of the Judge-Advocate-General of the Army is not sufficient to perform the great amount of labor required to copy, on the demand of persons who have been tried, the voluminous proceedings of the courts-martial in their cases. The duty is an imperative one under the law, but the force is inadequate to its accomplishment, as may easily be seen upon an inspection of the record of the vast amount of work performed in that office. I recommend the continuance of the appropriation by which special copyists could be employed for this purpose.

THE SIGNAL SERVICE AND WEATHER REPORT.

At Fort Whipple, Virginia, instruction has been given in the meteorological duties and studies required at the signal stations for observations and reports of storms throughout the United States, and in military signalling and telegraphy to officers of the Army and Navy. During the year the observation and report of storms has been necessarily rather in the process of organization for future success than as completely organized. A duty without precedent had to be originated in all its details of plans and discipline—the observation, reports, and mode of making public the necessary deductions and reports. The progress made has been fully as great as could have been anticipated, and has secured valuable results and given promise of extended usefulness.

By a comprehensive telegraphic organization each of the signal-stations is in telegraphic communication with the Signal Office at Washington, and from each of them daily and nightly weather reports are received at the Department. These reports are studied, bulletined, and charted at the office of the chief signal officer, and are furnished at the same time to most of the principal cities and ports of the country. The deductions from the study of the reports

are instantly telegraphed to the press and bulletined as soon as practicable at the observing offices, in board of trade rooms, merchants' exchanges, and other prominent places, and during the past year there have issued in this manner from the chief signal office and the observing stations fifty thousand charts.

In the month of October the display of cautionary signals, announcing the probable approach of storms, was commenced, for the first time in the United States, at twenty ports upon the lakes and Atlantic and Gulf coasts. These signals are arranged to be displayed at any hour of the day or night, upon the receipt of telegraphic orders from Washington.

While the service has been rapidly organized and pressed to these results, each step has been taken only when the public mind seemed to be educated and prepared for it, and the public necessity demanded it. The average time of the receipt by telegraph of the reports and observations made simultaneously from all the stations throughout the United States has been forty-five minutes. The average time elapsing between the moment at which telegrams were sent to the office at Washington from the most distant stations to that at which the deductions are made, published, and issued to the press has been ninety minutes.

Of the deductions published from the office, 60 per cent. are, after a careful examination of the statistics, considered to have been fully verified. This percentage, increased by those regarded as partially verified, will make an aggregate of 90 per cent. of average verifications.

It has been the policy of the Department to diffuse, as widely as possible, for the use of co-operating institutions, and for scientific study everywhere, the meteorological information collected at its stations and upon its records. It is believed that the United States now possesses a service more extensive and better organized for these purposes than that of any other country.

The fact that the reports daily issued find in most cases full confirmation, impresses itself on the minds of the people, and men of all callings, especially those engaged in commerce and agriculture, evince the greatest interest in this important work. Full recognition of its value has been given by the press and by the scientific men of other countries as well as of our own, and the results attained so clearly indicate its importance that I can, without hesitation, rely upon Congress for an appropriation for the prosecution and extension of its duties to the full extent of the estimate submitted.

Under the second section of the act of July 24, 1866, to aid in the construction of telegraph lines, and to secure to the Government the use of the same for postal, military, and other purposes, the Postmaster General has fixed the rates at which telegraphic communications for the Government shall be sent. The plan and method of compensation have worked well, and are found to be of much economy to the signal service.

THE MILITARY ACADEMY—THE CHICAGO FIRE.

By law the control of the Military Academy at West Point is devolved upon the Secretary of War. For some years past its immediate management had been entrusted to an officer of the Inspector-General's Department, who faithfully discharged his duties. Feeling, however, that, for his better information and that he might more efficiently perform the duties that this responsibility placed upon him, there should be a more direct communication between the Secretary of War and the Academy, the system was changed, and now all reports are made directly to this office.

The present strength of the Corps of Cadets at the Academy is 229. Several instances of improper interference by cadets with their fellows have occurred, but the offenders have been summarily dealt with, and strenuous exertions have been made by the Department to prevent the recurrence of such disorders, and to improve generally the tone of military discipline. Legislation on the subject of the expenses of the Board of Visitors is desirable, as under existing laws for the payment of the board and lodging of the members, doubts arise as to what is properly to be included under the head of board. A per diem allowance would remove this uncertainty, and it is recommended that such an allowance be made in the next appropriation.

By the fire at the cadet barracks last winter, many cadets who were engaged, under the direction of their officers, in extinguishing the flames, suffered the loss of clothing, books, &c., and an appropriation is recommended to compensate them for such losses. The sum necessary for this purpose will not exceed six thousand dollars, and should be confined to compensation for their clothing and books.

The intelligence of the great fire of October in Chicago reached the Department while the flames were in progress, and orders were at once telegraphed to officers in charge of Army depots to forward to that city supplies for the homeless and destitute. The promptness with which the wishes of the Department were carried out merits high commendation. In a few hours clothing, blankets, tents, and provisions, were on their way to the stricken city, and this immediate action relieved much distress. The records and property in the building occupied for headquarters of the Military Division of the Missouri were totally destroyed, but the greater portion of the most valuable can be duplicated from the War Department. Several companies of troops were ordered to the city by General Sheridan, under whose supervision they assisted in preserving order during the trying days which succeeded the conflagration. The official and personal conduct of General Sheridan, while intrusted, by common consent, with the management of affairs in the city, receives the emphatic approval of this Department.

Similar issues of supplies of various kinds were made to the governor of Wisconsin for the relief of the sufferers in that State, and relief was also afforded to those in Michigan. Without further application, Congress will, without doubt, record its sanction of this action.

PROTECTION AGAINST DISHONEST OFFICIALS.

A perfect system of financial disbursements is a subject which, from the beginning of the Government, has commanded the attention of all wise statesmen; and the discovery of the astounding frauds which have startled the country by their magnitude, has recalled attention anew to the causes which have combined to permit these dishonest actions to go so long undetected. No system of regulations can be devised which will make embezzlement, under all circumstances, impossible. The rogue is always vigilant. Counter-vigilance alone can thwart his schemes. The regulations now governing disbursements appear to be ample for the prevention of fraud. The failure to enforce them makes the path to fraud an easy one. The daring deceptions lately practiced provoke an inquiry as to some mode for the prevention of their recurrence. Relaxed duty, failing vigilance, and excessive confidence suspend all checks on dishonesty, and render regulations a farce. A careful scrutiny, by frequent inspections of the accounts of disbursing officers and of their cash balances, followed up, without loss of time, by a comparison of the result of this searching inspection with the officer's balance at the place of deposit, is clearly the only safe resort. The objection that a sentinel is thereby placed at every disbursing officer's door is not entitled to consideration. Integrity does not object to tests, it invites scrutiny. An honest public officer prefers that his discretion should be limited. He accepts responsibility when it comes, but he cheerfully submits to any examination of his public conduct, deeming it no reproach that he is subject to the operation of an inflexible rule, which the dishonest acts of others have made a necessity. Men of large experience as disbursing officers have told me that they do not remember a single defalcation which might not have been prevented or speedily detected by the exercise of proper vigilance on the part of the supervising officer. In this he does not transcend his duty. He only performs it.

Why the necessity of furnishing duplicate statements to different departments if no comparison is made? When the shock of discovery comes, and a great fraud is made manifest, it is clear that there is no secret somewhere. Is it in the regulations and orders and circulars issued for the prevention of these very frauds? Not at all; but in the disregard of supervising officers of their provisions. The vigilance which these circulars prompt, would, if exercised, furnish a different result. Holding these views as to the necessity, for frequent inspections, and recognizing their great ad-

vantages, I propose, in this department, to test their efficacy in the most thorough manner. In assigning inspectors to districts I shall deem it my duty to hold each one of them responsible for every misdemeanor which occurs in connection with the accounts of any disbursing officer in his district, which due diligence on his part would have prevented, so that he will feel that he has a trust with which he dare not trifle. A plan of inspection can, in my judgment, be established which will be simple and direct, and I shall endeavor to show by its operation that it is eminently practicable. With detection made morally certain, and with punishment sure and speedy, there can be no safety for fraud.

THE ARMY IN THE SOUTH, ETC.

The proclamation of the President of May 3, 1871, calling attention to the act of Congress entitled "An act to enforce the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and for other purposes," approved April 30, 1871, necessitated orders for the enforcement of the same by this Department, and it was directed:

"That whenever occasion shall arise, the regular forces of the United States stationed in the vicinity of any locality where offenses described by the aforesaid act, approved April 30, 1871, may be committed, shall, in strict accordance with the provisions of said act, be employed by their commanding officers in assisting the authorized civil authorities of the United States in making arrests of persons accused under said act; in preventing the rescue of persons arrested for such cause; in breaking up and dispersing bands of disguised marauders and of armed organizations against the peace and quiet or the lawful pursuits of the citizens in any State."

It has been absolutely necessary to retain about one-sixth of the Army in those States of the South, east of the Mississippi, which were engaged in the war of the Rebellion. Numerous applications for troops to aid in the enforcement of the laws were received from United States marshals, officers of internal revenue, and State officials; urgent appeals for assistance crowded in from private citizens, and it soon became evident that the security of the people and the maintenance of the peace of the Southern States was a painful fact, which merits serious consideration, that in some portions of the South freedom of opinion is not tolerated, if that opinion is expressed in opposition to the doctrines which originated the late Rebellion. Indisputable evidence establishes the fact, which is proven, too, by the experience of numerous sufferers, that an armed rebellion of regular organization and great strength now exists in parts of those States. The frequent reports by Army officers of perfect reliability, made after mature observation and judgment, conclusively show that the ramifications of this organized body are extensive; that its system is arranged with great care and shrewdness; that its persecutions extend in the dark hours of the night, and it cowardly disguises, to persons of every age, sex, and condition who dare to exercise a freedom of conduct, action, or speech which disagrees with the political doctrines of these marauders. This body of conspirators, constituted for the purpose of crushing out many of the inherent liberties of the defenseless people of those States, defies the law and spurns the authority of the Government, and so long as it exists, so long will it be necessary to aid the civil authorities with the armed force of the nation in putting down this second rebellion, and in bringing its leaders to speedy punishment.

The attention of Congress has been repeatedly called to the necessity of appropriations for the speedy erection of a substantial fire-proof building for the War Department, and I cannot close this report without again alluding to the subject. The rented buildings, scattered all over the city, are remote from the main office and ridiculously unsafe. Many tons of records, to which the public business requires daily reference, are stored in these buildings. Besides their historical interest, these papers are of immense value for the protection of the Government against fraud, comprising all the muster-rolls of the Regular and Volunteer armies, reports of Army officers, hospital records, accounts of public property, and, in fact, the accumulated records of the Department for seventy years, and are scattered here and there in such buildings as can be secured by rent from private parties, and utterly unsuited to the purposes for which they must be used. Every consideration of public interest urges me to press this matter upon the attention of the people's representatives in the hope that they will act before a conflagration sweeps from the possession of the nation those records whose value cannot be told in figures.

Reflection on the mode of clerical selection and appointments suggests the hope that a system may be devised by the civil service commission which may extend its beneficial effects to the various Departments of the Government. The experience of those who have watched with interest the workings of this Department teaches that time is lost, money wasted, and business demanding attention delayed by the constant changes which occur under present laws and customs. A judicious reform would soon exhibit the great advantage of an improved system.

WILLIAM W. BELKNAP, Secretary of War.

The following is a memorandum of orders, circulars, and instructions, relating to the Corps of Engineers, issued or received during the month of November 1871:

Captain Mansfield and Second Lieutenant Powell.—In addition to their present duties, to recruit for the engineer battalion, and to report by letter to Major Abbot for instructions. S. O. No. 424, par. 2, W. D., A. G. O. October 30.

Captain Twining, Captain Raymond, First Lieutenant M. B. Adams, First Lieutenant Post, Second Lieutenant Hinman, and Additional Second Lieutenant Willard.—Detailed as members of a General Court-martial to meet at Willet's Point, November 3, 1871. First Lieutenant W. H. Heuer appointed judge-advocate. S. O. No. 234, par. 2, H. Q. Dept. of the East, October 31.

Major Wheeler.—Resignation accepted by the President, to take effect October 10, 1871. S. O. No. 431, W. D., A. G. O., November 4.

First Lieutenant Quinn.—Granted leave of absence for thirty days. S. O. No. 147, H. Q. C. of E., November 6.

Officers of Engineers and Agents.—Published decision of Postmaster-General, regarding the construction of the last paragraph of Post-office Department Order, June 29, 1871, relative to rates of pay for communication by telegraph. Circular, Office C. of E., November 13.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tower.—To proceed to depot and post at Willet's Point, and inspect certain engineer property. S. O. No. 154, par. 3, H. Q. C. of E., November 23.

Battalion of engineers.—Private Philip Weber, Company A, Seventh Cavalry, transferred to battalion. S. O. No. 453, par. 2, W. D., A. G. O. November 23.

Disbursing officers and agents.—Directed as to manner of issuing checks against their official deposits. Circular Office C. of E., November 25.

Colonel H. J. Hunt, Fifth Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. S. Laidley, Ordnance Department; Major Q. A. Gillmore, Corps of Engineers; Major T. Seymour, Fifth Artillery; Major S. Crispin, Ordnance Department; Major T. G. Baylor, Ordnance Department; and Captain H. A. Du Pont, Fifth Artillery.—Board of officers convened by S. O. No. 302, W. D., A. G. O., August 4, to "test King's depressing gun-carriage" for 15-inch bar-bette guns, to re-assemble at Battery Hudson, New York Harbor, December 4, 1871. S. O. No. 157, par. 1, H. Q. C. of E., November 23.

Officers of engineers and agents.—The Oakland Daily News, published at Oakland, Cal., placed on the advertising list of the War Department. Circular, Office C. of E., December 1.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

A GERMAN squadron of evolution is ordered to practice in the Atlantic Ocean.

A DESPATCH from Havana, December 2, announces the arrival there of the iron-clad *Terror*.

THE U. S. Survey steamer *Hassler*, with the scientific party of explorers, sailed from Boston, December 4, upon its voyage along the Atlantic and Pacific coast of North and South America.

THE new army of occupation that Spain has resolved to send to the eastern department of Cuba will be landed at Santiago de Cuba, the chief post in the eastern department, and the transports are to be conveyed by a powerful squadron, which is to remain and reinforce the Spanish fleet now in the West Indies.

THE Prussian Foreign Office has received intelligence that the German sailors of the imperial navy who were under confinement in Rio Janeiro, have been released by order of the Brazilian authorities in that city. A pacific arrangement of the difficulty which Prussia has maintained with Dom Pedro in consequence is now probable, and the excitement on the subject is subsiding.

FROM Vallejo, California, we learn that the dry-docks, with the ship *Keersarge* thereon, have been hauled into the basin for repairs. The *Narragansett* left for San Francisco. The boilers were put in the *Lackawanna* November 23, and the donkey boilers were put in the day previous. The new ordnance building on Mare Island is so far advanced that the workmen were engaged to-day in putting on the roof. Work on the *Farragut* is progressing finely.

MR. Dawes has introduced into the House of Representatives a joint resolution providing that from the 26th of June, 1868, the date of the act making eight hours a day's work in the Government workshops, to the 19th of May, 1869, the date of the President's proclamation authorizing full pay for each legal day, the workmen shall receive pay for days of ten hours each. During the time covered by the resolution the employees in some of the Navy-yards obtained and took under protest only eight-tenths of the pay to which they had previously been entitled under the ten hour rule, and this resolution if passed will secure to them the additional pay they demand.

SECRETARY Boutwell, December 2, ordered the papers to be issued to the schooner *E. A. Horton*, which were taken from her by the Canadian authorities at the time of her capture about two months ago. Our Government has waited for the British Government to protest against the procedure of the captain of the *Horton* in repossessing himself of his vessel, seized for alleged violation of the fishery laws of the Dominion, but as such evidence had not been presented to the State Department, and the owner having complied with all the requirements of law applicable to such cases, Secretary Boutwell did not deem it necessary to longer deprive the Gloucester schooner of the necessary documents to enable her to proceed to sea.

CAPTAIN Charles S. Maedonough, a veteran officer of the Navy, died December 2, at Montclair, N. J., in the fifty-second year of his age. He was born in Connecticut, in 1819, and was the eldest son of the late Commodore Thomas Maedonough. He was appointed to the Navy from New York, on April 8, 1835, and saw service successively in the Mediterranean, on the coast of Africa, on the Pacific station, again on the coast of Africa, then on the Pacific station again, on the Brazilian station, on the coast of Africa for the third time, and in 1861, was placed on the retired list. Subsequent to that date, however, he was employed on the receiving ships at New York and Portsmouth, N. H., his service terminating in May, 1848, he had attained the rank of lieutenant, and in 1857, was commissioned as captain. For some time past he had been in falling health, and his death ultimately resulted from paralysis. He leaves a wife and three children.

AFFAIRS at the Brooklyn Navy-yard are very dull just now. 400 employees have been discharged. There are now only 1,387 men employed in the yard, scattered over the six departments, with their thirty-five sub-divisions, while the average number usually employed foots up to about three thousand men. The *Kansas*, fifth rate (3), left for Havana, November 29, to join the *Nipsic*, *Nantasket*, *Terror*, and *Shawmut*, which for some time past have been in Southern waters. The *Canandaigua*, now undergoing repairs, will be ready to sail in about three weeks. Just before the arrival of the Grand Duke the *Iroquois* arrived at this port from Philadelphia; but as it was ascertained that her boiler was defective she was put under inspection, and will probably be put out of commission. The *Neveda* is at the Navy-yard, in the same condition as she came from the Government engineer. The other vessels now at the Navy-yard for repairs are the *Albany*, *Dictator*, *Delaware*, *Florida*, *Gettysburg*, *Roanoke*, *Tennessee*, *Girard*, *Portsmouth*, *Supply*, *Susquehanna*, *Minnesota*, *Hartford*.

THE New York Herald reports in its Washington despatches, that the lively discussion there "relative to the state of our naval service has brought out some interesting disclosures in that direction. A prominent naval officer, zealously defending his class from the censure that is being applied to it, asserts that Senator Wilson's grog bill, a puritanical bit of legislation, by which Jack's daily drop of rum was turned into a commutation allowance of five cents per diem, has been driving all the good sailors of the American Navy into the British service, where there are no Congressional tinkers to enforce the Maine law in the forecabin and leave full liberty of

five fingers abaft the mast. Legislation can no more change the settled habits of a sailor than a brigadier-general's commission can create a military genius; and the daily ration of Government grog, the officer says, is now replaced by a big drunk at the end of the cruise. But the chief embarrassment of the Navy Department, by its own assertion, lies in the Congressional restriction of the enlisted strength of the Navy to 8,000 men. Making the usual deduction for men sick, in confinement, on shore duty or absent, nothing like a resolute crew for a single vessel can be kept on hand. The *Franklin*, just returned from her third cruise, when starting on her two last voyages was compelled to wait till her old crew had got over their spree ashore, and were driven to re-enlist after spending all their money. When the *Wabash* was recently ordered to relieve the *Franklin* as flag-ship of the new commandant of the European squadron, established custom would have required the former to join the fleet before the latter left it, in order that the strength of the squadron should not be even temporarily diminished, and because a certain amount of etiquette and saluting had to be attended to between the incoming and retiring admirals, but scarcity of men compelled custom and etiquette to be passed over in this case, and the departure of the *Wabash* and the packing of Rear-Admiral Alden's sea chest was nicely timed to correspond with the *Franklin's* expected arrival home and the duration of the indispensable spree of her crew before enlisting for a cruise in the *Wabash*. The *Franklin*, however, failed to come to time, and as the admiral was impatient to come into his new honors, it finally became necessary to strip two smaller vessels of their crews and put them out of commission to get the *Wabash* and the admiral off to sea. This kind of thing, as well as the bad condition of many of the vessels, prevents a speedy getting ready for the impending troubles with Spain."

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

NOVEMBER 28.—Passed Assistant Surgeon George H. Reed, to duty at the Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I.

DECEMBER 1.—Captain F. A. Parker, as member of board of examiners of officers for promotion.

Lieutenant-Commander James P. Robertson, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

Lieutenant-Commander C. F. Goodrich, to the Naval Academy.

Lieutenant Jas. E. Craig, to the Naval Academy.

Medical Inspector Charles Eversfield, as member of board of medical examiners of officers for promotion.

DECEMBER 5.—Commodore Reed Werden, to command Naval Station at New London, Conn.

Captain J. C. Howell, to command Naval Station at League Island, Pa.

Captain James F. Armstrong, as executive of the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

DETACHED.

NOVEMBER 28.—Assistant Paymaster Frank H. Clark, from duty at the Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I., and ordered to settle accounts.

DECEMBER 1.—Captain E. E. Calhoun, from the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, and ordered as executive at the Navy-yard, Boston.

Lieutenant Jacob E. Noell, from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the receiving ship *New Hampshire*.

Lieutenant George A. Bicknell, from the Naval Academy, and placed on waiting orders.

DECEMBER 5.—Commodore James M. Frailey, from the command of the Naval Station, League Island, Pa., and placed on waiting orders.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending December 2:

William McGowan, corporal marine, November 10, Naval Hospital, Mare Island, Cal.

CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

DECEMBER 1.

Second Lieutenant Wood S. Schenck.—The leave of absence of November 8, 1871, extended two weeks for the benefit of his health.

First Lieutenant Richard S. Cullum.—The leave of absence granted November 11, 1871, extended to January 1, 1872; at expiration of leave to report for duty at Marine Barracks, Annapolis, Md.

DECEMBER 2.

Captain John H. Hybee.—By direction of the Navy Department, detached from Marine Barracks, Mare Island, Cal., and ordered to report to the rear-admiral commanding Pacific Fleet, for duty as fleet marine officer.

Captain Joseph F. Baker.—Granted leave of absence for thirty days from December 6.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, November 25, 1871.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of the Navy Department and the naval service for the past year: The Navy of the United States now consists of 179 ships of all classes and in all conditions. These are calculated to carry, when in commission for service, 1,390 guns, exclusive of howitzers and small caronnades.

Since the date of the last report, the news of the loss of the *Saginaw*, on the 29th day of October, 1870, at Ocean Island, in the Pacific, was received at the department, and in May last the tug *Primrose* was sold at the Navy-yard in this city.

Of the 179 ships remaining on the Navy list, 29 are sailing ships, and the remainder side-wheel steamers, or sailing vessels with auxiliary screws; 53 of them, armed with 601 guns, are in service, attached to the various fleets and stations as regular cruisers, dispatch boats, hospital, store, receiving, and practice ships; these, with the tugs and small vessels in use at the various navy-yards and stations, make the force in commission for all the purposes of naval service.

Of the remainder 6 are nearly ready for sea, and will join the various squadrons as soon as their crews can be enlisted and organized; 52 are monitors, only one of which is now in commission, the balance being laid up at the various stations, but principally at League Island, where, in the fresh water of the Delaware, their iron bottoms deteriorate with far less rapidity than in the salt water of the other stations; 17 are under repair at the various yards; 13 are on the stocks, never having been completed and launched; and the balance of those whose names are on the list are laid up in ordinary.

Of these last a very large proportion, including, as a general proposition, almost all those built of unseasoned white oak, are unfit for use, and cannot be repaired with advantage.

Built with great rapidity, of the only material available during the pressing emergencies of the war, and many of them designed for special purposes, the necessity of which has passed away, the cost of repairing them would be entirely out of proportion to the results to be obtained, either of service or endurance. Their usefulness is passed or is passing away. They make a part of the necessary expenditure of the great war, and the nation must accept the loss, and from its abundant resources must supply the deficiency which is thus occasioned. Unless something is done in this direction, our cruising Navy, now by no means powerful, indeed scarcely respectable for a nation of our rank and responsibilities, will soon almost wholly pass out of existence as an arm of our national power.

It is certainly true, as suggested in your last annual report, that, situated as our country is, "the Navy is our only means of direct protection to our citizens abroad, or for the enforcement of any foreign policy;" and while we may have some reason to hope that in our own generation we may see the beginning of an end of warlike strife among the more enlightened and free of civilized nations, yet we cannot expect that the world will be wholly civilized in our day, or that freedom will come to it without contention. Barbarism will still respect nothing but power, and barbaric civilization repels alike interference, association, and instruction. Even in civilized communities, ambitious, selfish, and turbulent passions still sway the actions of men, and arbitrary power will not yet resign without a struggle its hold on the organizations of civilized society.

Not only on the shores and among the islands of our continent, but in every seaport of civilized Europe, in Asia, from the shores of the Bosphorus to the head of navigation on unnamed rivers on the confines of the Chinese Empire, in Japan, in the islands and semi-continents of the East, and among the groups of the Pacific and Southern Oceans, our citizens claim and need our protection. In every quarter of the known world they are found occupying every field which enterprise dares to invade or energy avails to conquer; and everywhere, outside of our own limits, wherever they enter, they carry with them affirmative, and sometimes aggressive ideas of freedom and progress, antagonistic alike to the traditions, customs, and habits of the people, and the ideas and practices of the local governments.

Such is the result of our progressive civilization upon the enterprising and affirmative spirit of our people. Its effect is apparent in every land that they penetrate; and we cannot afford, either as a Government or as a people, to neglect wholly our responsibilities as a representative nation, nor our national obligation to our citizens who, wherever they are, claim the countenance of our Government and the protection of its flag.

I feel it my duty again to press these considerations, so often presented already, in the hope that in their own time the representatives of the people will give their attention to the situation, and take efficient measures, at least, to check the decline of our naval power.

The limits and duties assigned to the various cruising stations have not been changed since my last report, and the naval force given to each has not been materially changed. The vessels actually in commission on some of the stations are less in number than formerly; but this decrease is rather apparent than real, for in almost all there has been an actual increase of the active force. This has been done by putting out of commission the unwieldy iron-clads, which could only lie inactive in harbor or were towed slowly and at great expense from port to port, and substituting for them, as far as the department has been able, small and active cruisers, by which means we are enabled to occupy continually a larger extent of cruising ground and visit more frequently the ports assigned to each station, and generally to render more effective service in every department of public affairs where the presence and aid of the Navy is necessary, without greater expense of men and money.

The force on the North Atlantic station is still under command of Rear-Admiral S. P. Lee, who held that position at the making of the last report. The force on this station consists of the *Severn*, the *Seiatar*, the *Nantasket*, the *Nipsic*, the *Kansas*, the *Pawnee*, the *Terror*, with the *Worcester* and *Canandaigua* just fitted for the station, and the *Shawmut* now on duty there, but ultimately destined for the South Atlantic—in all ten ships, mounting seventy guns, all active cruisers, except the *Terror*, which is an iron-clad of the monitor class.

The South Atlantic station remains, as at the date of the last report, under command of Rear-Admiral Lanman, with a fleet consisting of the *Lancaster* (flag-ship), the *Ticonderoga*, and the *Wasp*, with the *Wyoming* already fitted for the station—four ships mounting forty guns, besides the *Shawmut*, detained for the present on duty on the North Atlantic station.

The fleet on the Pacific station, still commanded by Rear-Admiral John A. Winslow, consists of the *California*, the *Pensacola*, the *Narragansett*, the *Saranac*, the *Mohican*, the *Resaca*, the *Ossipee*, the *Omear*, and the *St. Mary's*, in all nine ships, mounting 99 guns, and divided into two squadrons, viz.: the North Pacific and the South Pacific, commanded respectively by Commodore Roger N. Stembel and Commodore David McDougal.

The European station is now commanded by Rear-Admiral Charles S. Boggs, who relieved Rear-Admiral Glisson on the 28th day of January last. The ships belonging to this fleet are the *Brooklyn*, the *Plymouth*, the *Guerriere*, the *Wachusett*, the *Shenandoah*, the *Junata*, and the *Wabash*, with the *Congress* about to sail—in all eight ships, with 139 guns.

On the Asiatic station, of which Rear-Admiral John Rodgers is still the commandant, we have the *Colorado*, the *Bencicia*, the *Alaska*, the *Ashuelot*, the *Monocacy*, the *Idaho*, and the *Palos*, with the *Saco*, now on her way through the Suez Canal, and the *Iroquois*, under orders to join the squadron—in all nine ships, mounting 97 guns.

Of these ships on the various stations forty have been more or less refitted and repaired at home or abroad since my last report, and four others, all of the smaller class, now at the various navy-yards, will be ready for sea in periods varying from twenty to sixty days.

During the year the Navy has also supplied sixteen officers and 220 men for duty in the coast survey service; has completed the survey of the Darien and Tehuantepec routes, has made extensive surveys and soundings for telegraphic cables, and, under the direction of Congress, fitted out and dispatched three storeships loaded with provisions, by the charitable people of our country, for the sufferers from the European war, and has, under like direction and under your order, sent out a vessel, completely fitted, equipped, and supplied, to explore the Arctic Ocean "toward the North Pole."

All these are appropriate and valuable duties for the Navy

in time of peace, and are proper expenditures of its material force; and while they add to the information of the world, and contribute to civilization and advancement, they afford to the officers and men employed a proper and practical school of service and instruction.

MIDWAY ISLANDS.

In my last annual report it was stated that the work of deepening the harbor of Midway Islands, prosecuted under the authority of an act of Congress, approved March 1, 1869, would of necessity cease in October, 1870, on account of the exhaustion of the fund appropriated for that purpose. Accordingly, work on the cut was discontinued on the 21st of the month named, and the working party embarked on the *Saginaw*, October 28, for San Francisco. The reports of Commodore Sicard, detailing the progress of the work, will be found in the Appendix. This office estimates that to complete the canal to a width of 175 feet will require about 46 months' work, at a cost of \$187,000, without counting the cost of removing the debris or "small stuff." Such would, he thinks, cost as much more.

WRECK OF THE SAGINAW.

Laving Midway Island on the 28th of October, Commander Sicard, of the *Saginaw*, determined to run to Ocean Island, a small island lying about one hundred miles to the westward of Midway, to rescue any sailors who might have been wrecked there, and who, being out of the ordinary track of vessels in that part of the Pacific, would have little chance of relief from any other source. This expedition, though in the direct line of his duty as the commander of a naval vessel, was fraught with the usual perils of navigation in unknown and dangerous waters; and about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 29th of October the *Saginaw*, running slowly in the darkness, was wrecked on a reef outlying the island for which she was bound. With great exertion and the exercise of much energy and skill, all on board, including the officers and men of the ship, and the working party from Midway Island, were safely landed, with a small allowance of provisions and materials rescued from the wreck. Cast upon the shores of an uninhabited island, with scanty means of subsistence, out of the line of travel, and more than one thousand miles from the nearest port of refuge or relief, then it was that the commanding officer of the *Saginaw* illustrated the benefits of the comprehensive education and strict training which he had received at the hands of the Government, and exhibited the high personal qualities which characterize him as an officer. Ably seconded by his subordinate officers of every grade, Commander Sicard took immediately every possible means for the health, safety, and final relief of those who were committed to his command. Whatever could be saved from the wreck was at once secured; measures were immediately taken to keep up the health, spirits, and discipline of the men; fresh water was distilled by means of an old boiler, and everything was organized so that there was no waste of either provisions, material, or labor.

The boat fittest for the service was promptly repaired, provisioned and equipped, as far as might be, for the perilous voyage, and, manned by one officer and four men, all of whom volunteered for the service, was despatched to Honolulu, the nearest port from which relief could be expected. After her departure work was vigorously pushed on the island; and when finally rescued, the shipwrecked mariners, with well-directed labor, had almost completed, from the material of their old ship, a new schooner, perfectly seaworthy, and sufficient, under favorable circumstances, to carry the whole shipwrecked party to a port of safety. I have thus collated some of the facts of this case to illustrate my high opinion of the energy and ability displayed by Commander Sicard and his comrades on this occasion, and to show how well such conduct repays the favor of the Government.

The little party who volunteered for the voyage in a small boat to Honolulu, to bring relief to their comrades, more than fifteen hundred miles across a winter ocean, consisted of Lieutenant John G. Talbot, executive officer of the *Saginaw*; William Halford, coxswain; Peter Francis, quartermaster, and John Andrews and James Muir, seamen. They left Ocean Island on the 18th of November, and after a voyage of thirty-one days, during which they encountered terrible difficulties and danger, and endured much privation and suffering, they arrived, on the 19th of December, off the island of Kauai, one of the Hawaiian group. They had previously lost their oars in a storm, and in attempting to land the boat was upset, and Lieutenant Talbot and three of the men, already exhausted by privation and suffering, were drowned in the surf. William Halford alone survived, and reached the shore in safety with the despatches from Commander Sicard. Mr. Pierce, our minister to the Sandwich Islands, at once chartered a vessel, which, with a Hawaiian steamer proffered by the Government, sailed the same day, and relieved the shipwrecked crew of the *Saginaw*. The thanks of the department are due to Mr. Pierce and to the Hawaiian Government for their energy and kindness.

The death of Lieutenant Talbot closed a career of unusual promise, and in it the Navy lost a brilliant and beloved member. A skillful sailor, an accomplished officer, and a Christian gentleman, his self-sacrifice has arrested the attention of his comrades, and will remain an example to the service, which in life his virtues adorned, and whose highest qualities were illustrated in the crowning heroism of his death. His comrades of humbler rank will not be forgotten. With him they faced the dangers of the lonely ocean, and offered their lives with his, to save their shipwrecked messmates; and no one can estimate how much of danger and suffering, perhaps of death, was saved through the courage and endurance of the sole survivor of that gallant boat's crew.

TEHUANTEPEC CANAL.

The Department is in the receipt of the report and accompanying maps of the Tehuantepec surveying expedition, under command of Captain R. W. Shufeldt, United States Navy.

This expedition was authorized by act of Congress, and an appropriation made therefor. A small corps of naval officers was detailed for the work, and the steamer *Mayflower* placed at the disposal of Captain Shufeldt. The *Kansas* was ordered to accompany the expedition for the purpose of surveying the river Coatzacoalcas and its bar. The *Cyane* was ordered to assist the expedition in the survey of the harbors and lagoons on the Pacific coast. It was known that surveys had before been made for a railroad, and the feasibility of supplying the summit-level with water reported by Senor Moro, in 1848, and the main object of the present expedition was to determine, ultimately, the question whether a sufficient supply of water for a ship canal across the isthmus could be obtained. For this purpose a careful and thorough examination was made of the country adjacent to the lowest passes, under the immediate supervision of Civil Engineer E. A. Fuentès. Senor Moro's proposition was first examined into

and found to be impracticable. The attention of the party was next turned to the Rio Corte, or upper Coatzacoalcas, as the only solution of the question of water supply, and it was found practicable, by means of a feeder, to supply upward of 2,000 feet of water per second. For the technical part of the engineering question, Captain Shufeldt refers to the report of the chief engineer of the expedition. This is accompanied by twenty maps and profiles, with many calculations to prove that a ship canal across the isthmus of Tehuantepec is not only practicable, but that the obstacles in the way of the canal route are of the most ordinary nature. The party was joined on the 10th of January by three Mexican commissioners, who worked in perfect accord with our own force. The season of the year prevented the running of a line to the Atlantic; yet, from the thorough surveys previously made for railway purposes, and the general information gathered on the frequent journeys of the party, it is assumed that the canal can start at the headwaters of ship navigation of the river Coatzacoalcas and run thence along its right bank and the valley of a tributary to the dividing ridge at Tarifa, descending through the Tarifa Pass, across the plains, to its Pacific terminus. The total length of such a canal will be 172 miles, including river navigation. It will require locks to overcome a height of 732 feet. The Coatzacoalcas river, forming the harbor at the Atlantic side, is well sheltered and will require dredging at only a few points. The Salina Cruz harbor, on the Pacific, is exposed to the south winds, and a breakwater is proposed, to convert this roadstead into a safe harbor. No estimates have been made as to the cost of the work, since a minute survey of the whole region would have required larger means and more time than were at the disposal of the officer in charge. Full and interesting accounts of the geology, natural history, and productions of the country accompany the report.

DARIEN CANAL.

The survey of the Isthmus of Darien, under Commander T. O. Selfridge, which had been interrupted by the advent of the rainy season last year, has been successfully conducted in spite of the great obstacles met in making way through a dense and almost impenetrable wilderness. The *Guard* and *Nipio* were detailed for this service upon the Atlantic coast, and the *Resaca* upon the Pacific. Commander Selfridge sailed from New York in December last. His attention for the past year has been directed mainly to that portion of the isthmus bordering upon the valley of the Atrato, known properly as the Tuira and Napipi routes. The route of the Tuira and Atrato rivers had been reported upon most favorably by former explorers, and hopes were entertained that these reports might prove true. Five months were spent in the examination of this route, a line of levels 120 miles long was run from ocean to ocean, and though the divide in one portion was found to be not over 400 feet in height, the very broken nature of the country which was developed seems to render this portion of the isthmus impracticable for this enterprise. The survey of the Napipi route has been productive of far more favorable results, and has illustrated the possibility of a ship canal between the two oceans. The line adopted by Commander Selfridge commences at the mouth of the Atrato, in the Gulf of Darien, ascends that river for 150 miles to the mouth of the Napipi, and thence across, in the valley of the latter, to the Pacific Ocean, at Cupica Bay. The Atrato is navigable the whole of this distance for ships of the largest size, having a width of 1,500 feet and a depth nowhere less than thirty feet. The actual length of the necessary canal is 31 2-10 miles, the distance from the Atrato river to Cupica Bay, of which 23 miles is a flat plain, with a rise of 90 feet, and no difficulties of construction. The remaining eight miles present the only engineering obstacles; here the hills rise to a height of 600 feet and descend almost precipitously to the Pacific.

Commander Selfridge's report will be found in the Appendix. His estimates of cost are based upon a canal 120 feet wide and 26 feet deep. It is proposed to look up to a summit level of 90 feet, at which point the canal is fed by the Napipi river with a volume, at its lowest stage, of over 500,000 cubic feet per hour—a quantity which can be doubled by a feeder three miles long. The eight miles beyond the summit level include a cut averaging 125 feet deep and a tunnel five miles long. The successful operations at the Mount Ceniz and Hoosac tunnels, with the modern improvements in drilling machines and explosives, seem to solve successfully the problem of great tunnels, which now cost but little more than open cuts. The total cost of such a work in this country is liberally estimated at \$95,000,000, which, adding 25 per cent. for contingencies, makes a total of \$123,000,000. This route presents not only the great advantage of most excellent harbors at each terminus, but its low cost, compared with other lines, its construction in rock, requiring but a small outlay for annual repairs, the proximity of the heaviest portion of the work to the Pacific Ocean, the absence of swamps, and the comparative healthiness of the position, give it a prominence which repays the cost and labor of the expedition. These surveys, in addition to developing this excellent route, have, in clearing away the doubts and ignorance hanging over the Isthmus of Darien, in the fixing of its geographical positions, and in giving positive knowledge of the interior, its inhabitants, products, rivers, and mountains, added much to the general information of the scientific world.

The whole of the Isthmus of Darien, as embraced in the instructions of the Department, dated January 16, 1870, having been surveyed, Commander Selfridge returned with the expedition to the United States in July last.

It is gratifying to know that, notwithstanding the privations and hardships incident to this service, and the prevailing idea of the unhealthfulness of the climate, no lives have been lost in the prosecution of these surveys. Most of the work has been done by graduates of the Naval Academy, who, readily adapting themselves to the various duties required of them, have given an additional proof of the usefulness of that institution.

SUPPLIES FOR FRANCE AND GERMANY.

In pursuance of a resolution of Congress approved February 10, 1871, three naval vessels, the *Worcester*, the *Supply*, and the *Relief*, were detailed for the transportation of supplies furnished by our people for the sufferers of the European war, which was then raging. The vessels soon had full cargoes, shipped respectively at Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, and started on their noble mission; each under instructions to deliver their cargoes at the points designated by the agents of the relief associations of the respective cities. Having successfully fulfilled their instructions, they returned safely to the United States to the ports from which they started.

EXPEDITION TOWARDS THE NORTH POLE.

By the 9th section of an act approved July 12, 1870, "the President of the United States was authorized to organize and send out one or more expeditions toward the North Pole, and to appoint such person or persons as he may deem most fitted to the command thereof; to detail any officer of the public service to take part in

the same, and to use any public vessel that may be suitable for the purpose; the scientific operations of the expedition to be prescribed in accordance with the advice of the National Academy of Sciences." Mr. Charles F. Hall, a traveler of great experience in that locality, was appointed by your order to command the expedition fitted out under this authority. The *Periwinkle*, now called the *Polaris*, a small steamer of 387 tons, was selected for the service, and thoroughly prepared and strengthened at the Washington Navy yard to encounter the perils of polar navigation. Mr. Hall himself was permitted to suggest and supervise the preparation of the vessel, and to recommend the persons selected to accompany him.

The general instructions given to Mr. Hall by this Department, those for the scientific operations of the expedition, prescribed by the National Academy of Sciences, and the main correspondence and reports connected with the expedition, from its organization to its arrival at Upernivik, are embraced in the appendix to this report.

The *Polaris* left Washington June 10, arrived at New York the 14th, completed there her crew and outfit, and sailed the 29th. Touching at New London, St. Johns, and Holstenberg, in Greenland, she reached Godhaven on the 4th of August. The United States steamer *Congress*, detailed to convey to Greenland such stores of the expedition as the *Polaris* could not carry, sailed from New York on the 25th of July, and came up with the *Polaris* at Godhaven on the 10th of August. The Danish authorities at Godhaven extended every facility to the officers of our ships, and contributed by every means in their power to the success of the expedition. The *Polaris* took her departure from Godhaven August 17, and reached Upernivik the next day, whence her adventurous crew has sailed into the unknown Northern Ocean, full of hope and vigor, and bearing with them the good wishes of the world.

The *Congress*, having accomplished successfully the duty assigned to her, left Godhaven August 19, and arrived at New York on the 21st of September.

KOREAN EXPEDITION.

Our Minister to China having been instructed to arrange and conclude, if possible, a convention with the people who occupy the peninsula of Corea between the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan, for the protection of sailors and other strangers shipwrecked on their coast, it became necessary to that end that he should visit the capital of the country, or at least put himself in direct communication with the authorities. With this view, and with the assent of the authorities of China, to which country the Government of Corea is tributary, our Minister sailed in May last, from Nagasaki to Boiseo anchorage, on the Sale River in Corea, in the *Colorado*, the flagship of Rear-Admiral Rodgers, commanding our Asiatic fleet. The admiral was accompanied by the *Alaska*, the *Benedic*, the *Monocacy*, and the *Felos*. He was ordered thus to transport and convey the diplomatic representative of our Government, to exhibit, in his behalf, such force as was proper to illustrate his dignity in the eyes of the people, who respect only the exhibition of power, or as might be necessary to insure the safety of the expedition and vindicate, if need be, the honor of the flag. The wisdom and necessity of this policy was shown in the events which followed. After the arrival of the fleet at the anchorage, and after communication with and visits from the local authorities, and the assurance on our part, and understanding on theirs, that the expedition was not only peaceful but friendly in its objects, a surveying party, engaged in the peaceful occupation of making surveys and soundings, in the interest of science and for the safety of commerce, after having been allowed, with the understood consent of the authorities, to point out the Korean forts, far separated from and beyond the reach of assistance from the main body of the fleet, was suddenly and treacherously attacked while in the difficult navigation of an unknown passage swept by strong tides and filled with hidden rocks. The surveying boats were obliged to retrace the route, under a fierce fire of cannon suddenly opened upon them, and maintained with vindictive spirit and energy. The small vessels which had accompanied the party hurrying into action answered the fire of the forts, and driving the Koreans from their works, rescued the surveying boats from danger, with only two of our men wounded.

It was determined, by the concurrent judgment of our Minister and Admiral Rodgers, that an explanation should be at once demanded, and that ample time should be given the Koreans to understand the situation and make proper reparation. This was done, and ten days were allowed to pass, during which no movement was made by Admiral Rodgers, nor was any explanation offered by the Koreans. An attack was then planned and carried out upon the forts and citadel from which the outrage had been committed. A party of sailors and marines were landed, and, after a difficult march over an almost impassable country, the forts were assaulted and captured June 9 and 10. The officers and men engaged in this attack displayed perseverance, steadiness, and courage highly creditable to the country and the service. Five forts were captured and destroyed, fifty battle-flags taken, and four hundred and eighty-one pieces of artillery fell into our hands. Upward of two hundred and forty Koreans were killed and a few captured. Our own losses were three killed and ten wounded; among the former was Lieutenant Hugh W. McKee, a gallant and promising young officer, who fell at the head of his men, himself first inside the enemy's citadel. Finding it impossible to conclude the peaceful treaty, and not authorized to continue hostilities, except to repel and punish the fleet left the anchorage of Boiseo on the 3d of July, and arrived at Chefoo on the 5th of the same month. The latest despatches indicate that though the direct object of the expedition has failed, yet the punishment which was inflicted upon our treacherous assailants, and the gallant conduct of our forces, has not failed to make an impression upon the people of the Chinese coast, and to contribute materially in its effects to the consideration and comfort and perhaps to the safety of our citizens located there.

REPORTS OF BUREAUS.

The reports of the several bureaus of the Department will be found in the appendix, together with the report of the Admiral, presenting in detail many subjects to which I am unable to allude in this report; I commend them to the careful perusal of all interested in the service.

The Naval Observatory has well-earned its reputation as an admirable institution, and the works of its officers in late years have placed it in the foremost rank at home and abroad. It is ably and economically administered, and I commend it to the favorable consideration of Congress. The Hydrographic Office has during the past year, made marked progress, and its publications, both in relation to navigation and charts, reflect great credit on the officer in charge and on those attached to the office. The report of the hydrographer, Captain R. H. Wyman, is embraced in the report of the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation. I particularly recommend that some additional appropriation be made for the advancement of this work, so necessary to our naval and commercial marine. While every great maritime nation is yearly prosecuting the survey of unexplored or insufficiently determined avenues to commerce, the United States has remained idle, and, taking advantage of the work of other nations, has by no means returned to them an equivalent. The means should at least be furnished for the preparation of more general surveys, particularly in the Pacific Ocean and the waters most traversed by our commercial marine. The Marine Corps, besides discharging well all their ordinary duties on land and at sea, have also been employed during the past year to accompany the various surveying parties on the isthmuses, and have been called upon several times for the protection of the civil officers engaged in the execution of the revenue laws. For their efficiency and services in this behalf they have received the thanks of the Treasury Department.

NAVY-YARDS.

I again call attention to the necessity of developing our most important Navy-yards. The commercial nations of Europe, from their enormous arsenals, are able to strike our shores sharply and suddenly. Our own yards are generally small in area and very deficient in water front; developed on no well-considered plan, they are imperfectly adapted to the changed condition of construction and equipment. At Mare Island, in California, we have ample space, abundant water front, and, happily, all the requirements of a great naval arsenal. It is unnecessary to dwell upon our great naval interests in the Pacific, or upon the immense importance of improving the invaluable naval site, in the immediate vicinity of our great Pacific city. At League Island we have had the same ample area and water front, and the means of easily converting its back-channel into an admirable wet-basin, like those in Europe, while the excavation thus made will raise the island to a requisite height. The Department has been able, on the appropriation made last year for this purpose, to contract with responsible parties for the building of a commodious wharf, and for the dredging of a considerable basin in the back-channel, and the filling in to a proper level of about ten acres of the island, or nearly half the area of the present working yard at Philadelphia. A Navy-yard so ample in its proportions, in the midst of our great coal and iron region, easy of access to our own ships, but readily made inaccessible to a

hostile fleet, with fresh water for the preservation of the iron vessels so rapidly growing into favor, surrounded by the skilled labor of one of our chief manufacturing centres, will be invaluable to our country. With the resources of Mare Island on the Pacific and League Island on the Atlantic shore, fully developed on a well-considered plan, the country would receive a great accession of strength and find new bulwarks against foreign aggression. At New London, also, the appropriation of \$10,000, made by Congress, has been found sufficient for the building of a small but convenient dock, and that station is now in use for laying up ships in ordinary, as a point convenient to our repairing-yards at New York and Boston.

IRON-SHIP BUILDING YARDS.

In March last I had the honor to make a report to the Senate, in obedience to a resolution of that body, upon the subject of the proposals made to the Department "for establishing iron-ship building yards and docks, to economize expenditure in the Navy, and to aid in restoring commerce." This subject is much too comprehensive for cursory discussion in this report, but I have already, in my first annual report, spoken of its great importance to every interest of the country, and I hope to be able hereafter to present some system to be matured under the deliberations of Congress.

NAVAL PENSION FUND.

The pension-roll on the 1st of November, 1871, was as follows:
1,430 invalids, annually receiving.....\$180,614 25
1,703 widows and children, annually receiving.....260,644 00
3,133 persons, receiving a total of.....\$391,258 25

EXPENSES AND ESTIMATES.

The whole expenditure of the Department and the service since the date of the last report is \$19,235,240 52, including the payment of invalid pensions and adjudicated prize-money, and the appropriations of Congress for the payment of bounties and claims of various kinds to the 1st of the present month. The appropriations for the current fiscal year amount in the whole to \$20,964,717 25, and the expenditures from these appropriations are considerably within the proportion applicable to the period which has elapsed since its commencement. The estimates for the general expenses of the service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, amount to \$19,925,507 02, and are as follows:

Pay of officers and seamen of the Navy.....	\$6,500,000 00
Current repairs of buildings, docks, and incidental expenses in Navy-yards, etc.....	1,046,000 00
Pay of civil establishment in Navy-yards, hospitals, etc.....	338,786 00
Ordnance and Torpedo Corps.....	1,142,942 00
Coal, hemp, and equipments.....	1,500,000 00
Navigation, navigation supplies, etc.....	137,000 00
Hydrographic work.....	23,500 00
Naval Observatory, Nautical Almanac, etc.....	65,900 00
Repairs and preservation of vessels.....	3,300,000 00
Steam machinery, tools, etc.....	1,650,000 00
Provisions.....	1,687,000 00
Repairs of hospitals and laboratories.....	25,000 00
Burglars' necessities.....	60,000 00
Contingent expenses of various departments and bureaus.....	1,307,000 00
Naval Academy.....	193,408 25
Support of Marine Corps.....	1,049,632 70
Debilities of Marine Corps.....	3,718 07

and to these is added the sum of \$507,200 for permanent improvements at the several Navy-yards and stations. These estimates, it will be perceived, are in the aggregate more than \$1,200,000 less than the estimates made for the current year, and more than \$500,000 less than the appropriations made by Congress for that period. It must not be forgotten, however, that they are made closely for the mere maintenance of the navy, and that it is, and that needed improvement demands increase of appropriations.

REDUCTION OF THE NAVY.

The subject of the reduction of the personnel of the Navy has been much discussed, and it becomes not only those who are charged with the responsibility of the question, but also all who are interested in its solution, to meet and consider it deliberately and fairly, keeping in view at once the history of the country and of the service, and looking to the honor and welfare of both.

Though it is sometimes alleged, as a matter of complaint, that there are more officers of the Navy, especially of the higher grades, than are required for the service, yet it is a fact that, notwithstanding the promotions so ardently earned by many gallant officers during the late war, notwithstanding the admiration which they have conquered and the high consideration which they deserve at the hands of a Government which owes its preservation as much to them as to any other class of its servants or people, still the whole number of active officers in the higher ranks of the Navy is considerably less now than it was before the war.

As a matter of fact, the whole number of officers of the three highest grades in the Navy (including lieutenants and those above them) on the active list in 1859 was 633, while on the 1st of July, 1871, the number of officers on the active list in the eight highest grades (including lieutenants and those above them) was 483, or 47 less than before the war. Notwithstanding this condition, I recognize the desirability of reducing the military establishments of the country, of every point consistent with the dignity and safety of the country and its important interests, and with that attitude of good faith and generosity which becomes a great Government and a prosperous people toward its faithful and devoted servants. With all these considerations in view, I am of the opinion that there are some grades in our Navy now established by law which may be safely and properly reduced or dispensed with in time of peace. The grades of admiral and vice-admiral, assimilating to those of general and lieutenant-general in the Army, were properly established as the recognition and reward of brilliant service in the late war. These conditions have been fully met by the character and services of the very distinguished officers who have filled and now fill these grades. But the grades themselves are not required for the ordinary service of our Navy in time of peace, and they would lose their peculiar significance and honor if continued after the termination of the war beyond the lives of its most conspicuous actors. I therefore suggest that these two grades be allowed to lapse with the lives of those who now hold them.

The grade of commodore, after the lapse of the grades of admiral and vice-admiral, the grade next to the highest of the service, can also, I think, be dispensed with at this time. The number of officers of this grade is fixed by law at twenty-five. As our Navy is now organized, these officers are not absolutely required for any special duty. It is necessary for the efficiency of the service, and for the dignity, influence and success of our naval representation abroad, that our fleets on foreign stations should be commanded by officers of the rank of rear-admiral at least. This is the lowest grade of officers to whom the fleets of any naval power are committed, and it is with this grade, or with those of higher rank, that our commanders abroad are to come in constant contact, in every country and before every people of the world, in the discharge of every duty which may devolve on them, relating either to the policy, interests, influence or honor of our country. Under these circumstances, to commit the command of our fleet to officers of less rank would not only strike at the efficiency and dignity of the service, and often place it and the power it represents, in official consideration abroad, below that of every petty power, from Portugal to Hayti; but would in many parts of the world always postpone and often endanger the interests of our Government and citizens to a degree out of all proportion to the small additional expense incurred for officers of the grade referred to.

The number of rear-admirals is limited by the general provisions of the law to ten. These are now temporarily increased by two, who are retained on the active list because they have received the express thanks of Congress for distinguished services; and five cruising stations, and a pressing necessity for a sixth, by a division of the Pacific station, this number of rear-admirals is only sufficient to afford commanders, and relief for our fleets abroad, and that without taking into consideration any diminution in the number available, by reason of accident or sickness; to reduce this number would be neither statesmanship, nor economy.

Our fleets abroad are, however, generally too small in time of peace to be advantageously divided into squadrons. This leaves the grade of commodore, in such times, without appropriate command at sea, and without duties on shore which may not be discharged by officers of lower grades. I therefore suggest that no more promotions be made to this grade after a date to be fixed by law, and that, after the grade shall have lapsed by the death, retirement, or promotion of the present incumbents, promotions be made to the grade of rear-admiral, by selection as vacancies occur, from the list of captains. This plan will in a short time work the abolition of the whole grade of commodore, twenty-five in number, without real injury to the service or to anyone connected with it.

The grade of commodore will pass away, and though the captains on the active list will not reach and enjoy its honors, those of them who are deserving will reach the grade of rear-admiral at an earlier and more active age, while only those who are not deserving will miss promotion. I would further suggest, in accordance with the spirit of the recommendation made this year by the Vice-Admiral, as a member of the Board of Visitors to the Naval Academy, that the term of cadetship for midshipmen be increased by law from four years to six, two of which, at least, shall be spent at sea. The reasons for this change I will take occasion to present more at large hereafter. By this means the number of officers annually entering the naval service will be reduced by one-third. We may add to these reductions by dropping the mates now employed on temporary duty, except those who have peculiar claims by reason of war service or special fitness. When these reductions are consummated, we will, besides reducing by one-third the number of officers annually entering the service, have accomplished, since the 15th of July, 1870 (including the reductions made by the act of that date), a reduction of near three hundred in the number of line officers now authorized by law, with an annual saving to the public Treasury of near a half million of dollars. This, I think, as far as reductions can be carried at this time without injury or danger. In making these suggestions of reduction I am conscious that I shall not meet the views of those who are directly affected, and possibly I shall not entirely satisfy those of who, on imperfect information or immature reflection, may think further reduction proper. To the first of these classes I would say that I have made the suggestions after much consideration, and in clear view of the interests of the service as well as of the country. For the information of the latter class, I beg to present again the following explanations, which I have heretofore made in a less formal manner, showing the many important and complicated duties and requirements of the service:

Our Naval organizations are small, and in service are largely separated from and independent of each other. Each organization, however small, must be complete in itself for every purpose of service, with its complement of officers, sufficient in number and experience for every kind of duty and responsibility.

More than one-half of the officers on the active list are now actually at sea. But they cannot—no officer can or should—remain always at sea. The efficiency of the service and common humanity alike require that they should have regular relief from their distant and dangerous duties. But if this were otherwise, still they must come home in the ships which carried them out, because the seamen are enlisted for only three years, and must be returned to the United States for discharge, and their officers must come with them.

There are, however, other reasons why all the officers cannot be kept always at sea.

They are needed for shore duty; duty required by law, duty as essential to the efficiency, good order, and safety of the Navy as is sea service itself.

Ships are neither built, nor manned, nor armed, nor equipped, nor largely repaired at sea. All the business connected with the building, preserving, and repairing of war vessels, with recruiting and enlisting men, with providing ordnance, means for navigation, equipment, provisions, clothing, medicine, hospitals, etc., etc., must be attended to on land. Hence the necessity of Navy-yards and naval stations, and an adequate number of officers and men to manage, conduct, and protect them.

The education of cadet midshipmen requires its quota of both officers and vessels.

Courts-martial and courts of inquiry, composed of commissioned officers, as required by law, are as indispensable in administering naval law and justice as are civil courts in civil affairs.

Boards of examination and retiring boards are required by law, and boards of survey and inspection are a constant convenience and necessity.

Officers are also constantly required and employed on other important duty not connected with the several squadrons: some in acquiring a knowledge of the signal code; some, under requirement of law, on the Lighthouse Board, with the Coast Survey, the Observatory, and Hydrographic Office; some, in obedience to resolutions of Congress, in making soundings for telegraphic cables; and some in exploring the routes of the great interoceanic canals.

Officers of competent rank, knowledge, and experience, are required for all these duties, alike by the necessities of the service and the provisions of existing laws.

Whether they are engaged in active duty or waiting orders, justice and sound policy concur in requiring, what existing laws also require, that the pay of naval officers shall, to some extent, continue. If this were not common justice, it would be at least common prudence. No maritime and naval power has ever been or ever will be guilty of the folly of turning its naval officers adrift the moment their cruise is ended.

Navy officers fit for important commands require the training and experience of years, and cannot be obtained at a moment's notice, nor be called into existence by proclamation or legislation, even upon the spur of rebellion or invasion. They are only produced by long-continued processes of instruction and development. False economy may seek to scatter our officers and cripple our service, leaving our interests unprotected on every sea, but wise and liberal statesmanship will alone avail to protect our commerce, secure our foreign interests, and maintain our national honor. In conclusion, I must again express my renewed obligations to the chiefs and officers of the several bureaus, and to the accomplished Chief Clerk of the Department, and his associates, for the constant and effective energy and skill with which I have been assisted in every branch of departmental duty.

The President.

GEO. M. ROBERTS, Secretary of the Navy.

IN a recent decision in the United States Supreme Court in the case of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company v. Swift—Error to the Circuit Court for Missouri—the court holds that when an army surgeon is travelling as part of a command of the Army, and as such has with him his personal baggage, surgical instruments and table silverware, the carrier is responsible for the loss of the surgical instruments as a part of his baggage, and for the silverware as a part of the property which the carrier received as a common carrier of goods, and against the loss of which, from any cause but the act of God or the public enemy, he is insured; and this notwithstanding the property was not placed specially in the care of the baggage master in the proper car, but was transported with the consent of the carrier in a common passenger car. In such cases, says the court, it is to be presumed that when the compensation for transporting the command is fixed the company take into consideration, not merely the peculiar kind of property carried by the troops, which could hardly be treated as simple baggage of travellers, but also the quantity, besides such baggage possessed by individuals of the party. Mr. Justice Field delivered the opinion. In the case of Scott v. United States—Appeal from the Court of Claims—the plaintiff sought to recover for transportation furnished the Government in pursuance of a contract with the Quartermaster's Department. The Government declined to pay a balance claimed, on the ground that the amount was for transportation not within the route covered by the contract. The court below sustained this defence and dismissed the petition, and that judgment is affirmed by the Supreme Court. Mr. Justice Swayne delivered the opinion.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1871.

Office, No. 39 Park Row, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION, SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in a Post Office money order, United States funds, or Quartersmasters', Paymasters', or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH. Where none of these can be procured, send the money, but always in a registered letter. The registration fee has been reduced to fifteen cents, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. All postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

THE EXECUTIVE REPORTS.

THE third annual message of President GRANT was presented to the Forty-second Congress at the opening of the second session on Monday, the 4th of December. It is a condensed and clear statement of what has been done by the Executive Department of the Government during the year past, and what is intended for the year to come, and is free from all attempt to conceal infirmity or uncertainty of purpose, under "glittering generalities" of statement. General GRANT is a most inapt pupil in the TALLEYRAND school of administration, and has never learned how to so use language as to conceal thought; where he has an opinion to express he leaves us in no doubt as to what that opinion is, but he makes no attempt to mislead us with the idea that he is wise beyond what appears.

Our relations with foreign powers continue to be friendly, and, if the President could have forgotten Spain and her Cuban volunteers, he might have added satisfactory. With regard to Cuba the message says:

It is to be regretted that the disturbed condition of the island of Cuba continues to be a source of annoyance and anxiety. The existence of a protracted struggle in such close proximity to our territory, without any apparent prospect of an early termination, cannot be other than an object of concern to a people who, while abstaining from interference in the affairs of other powers, naturally desire to see every country in the undisturbed enjoyment of peace, liberty, and the blessings of free institutions. Our Naval commanders in Cuban waters have been instructed, in case it should become necessary, to spare no effort to protect the lives and property of bona fide American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the flag. It is hoped that all pending questions with Spain, growing out of affairs in Cuba, may be adjusted in the spirit of peace and conciliation which has hitherto guided the two powers in their treatment of such questions.

This, with the refusal of Mexico to abolish what is known as the "Free Zone" on her frontier, and the neglect of Venezuela to pay the installments due on the award of the Claims Commission of 1866, are the sole disturbing elements in our foreign relations. Corea we seem to have dropped like a hot potato, and it is evident that the zeal of Admiral JOHN RODGERS has led him where the Government is indisposed to follow him. In regard to the Korean expedition the President only says:

Prompted by a desire to put an end to the barbarous treatment of our shipwrecked seamen on the Korean coast, I instructed our minister at Peking to endeavor to conclude a convention with Corea for securing the safety and humane treatment of such mariners. Admiral RODGERS was instructed to accompany him with a sufficient force to protect him in case of need. A small surveying party was sent out, and on reaching the coast was treacherously attacked at a disadvantage. Ample opportunity was given for an explanation and apology for the insult. Neither came. A force was then landed, and after an arduous march over a rugged and difficult country, the forts from which the outrage had been committed were reduced by a gallant assault and were destroyed. Having thus punished the criminals and having vindicated the honor of the flag, the expedition returned, finding it impracticable under the circumstances to conclude the desired convention. I respectfully refer to the correspondence relating thereto herewith submitted, and leave the subject for such action as Congress may see fit to take.

The chief recommendations of the message are the eminently wise ones in favor of reform of the civil service, amnesty to the South, and the reduction of taxation. Recommendations are also made in favor of a union of the telegraph system of the United States with the postal system; of liberal appropriations to carry out the Indian peace policy, "not only because it is humane, Christian like, and economical, but because it is right"; a turn of expression which does not, we hope, indicate any doubt in the Presidential mind as to whether what is "humane and Christian like" can be otherwise than right. Legislation is recommended to prevent citizens of the United States being interested in slaves in foreign lands; to aid the lines of American

steamers to China and Australia; and to provide for the support of at least four American youths in Japan and China, to serve as interpreters to the American legations there. The subject of providing increased compensation to the heads of bureaus and officials, holding positions of responsibility is urged upon the attention of Congress.

The story of what has been done by the Executive to enforce the laws against the Ku-Klux and the Mormons is briefly told, and both of these classes of law-breakers will find their death-knell in this message. The President suggests, but does not recommend, the passage of an enabling act authorizing the territorial legislature of Utah to legitimize all children born prior to some specified time.

The current of comment of the press upon so much of the message as refers to and treats of our relations with Spain and of the war in Cuba; is that of dissatisfaction. Evidently the public mind is made up that that war having now gone on so long, and, as the President says, being still "without apparent prospect of an early termination," the time has come when there should be an official recognition on the part of the Government to such an extent as shall place the Cubans upon the same footing in this country as their adversaries. In so far as the President has failed to do this, there is a feeling of disappointment, especially in face of the recent aggravated proof that the real adversary of the Cubans is a mob-inspired, irresponsible minority and a foreign element of the population of the island, which not only sets at defiance the control of Spain, but the laws and usages of civilized warfare, to such degree as to have forced this Government repeatedly, yet fruitlessly, to protest against acts and conduct so shocking to humanity and Christianity.

Reading the language of the message in this connection carefully, however, we do not find the same matter for dissatisfaction which it appears to have excited elsewhere. The State papers, like the military orders and despatches of General GRANT, are habitually couched in circumspect terms; they do not gush with adjectives or sounding phrases, and are studiously brief. His emphasis has been in action at what he may conceive to be the opportune moment, and meanwhile he talks little about it.

The message expressly says that the war "exists in Cuba without apparent prospect of an early termination," for that is what the President means when he speaks of a "protracted struggle." This very word is used indiscriminately with war in connection with the Spanish-Cuban conflict in the despatches of the State Department, and Spain was long since notified that she could not protract the conflict indefinitely without devolving upon this country some consideration for the rights of the Cubans as undoubted, unconquered belligerents in a protracted, sanguinary struggle for self-government. This was said in substance by the State Department more than two years ago, a fact which gives special significance to the allusion of the President to the apparently indefinite protraction of the war.

THE President dismisses the Army with a paragraph, in which he refers to the report of the Secretary of War, and recommends that promotions be again opened to the staff corps, the number in each grade to be fixed by law, and vacancies to be filled by promotions from the grade below, a vacancy in the office of a chief of corps to be filled by selection from the corps in which the vacancy occurs. The report of Secretary BELKNAP we give in full elsewhere. It announces the completion of the work of reorganizing the Army, and dwells with satisfaction on the gradual reduction in the estimates for the department from eighty-one millions in 1868-'69 to fifty-eight millions in 1869-'70, forty millions in 1870-'71, and thirty-seven millions in 1871-'72, including a yearly appropriation of nearly four millions for river and harbor improvements. For the year ending June 30, 1873, but thirty-two millions are asked. The Secretary asks for authority to appoint two veterinary surgeons to each cavalry regiment, and advises Congress to abolish the grades of quartermaster's sergeant, company artificer, and company wagoner, and to discontinue further appointments of extra lieutenants. He advises that enlisted men be again authorized to deposit money with the paymaster, subject to check; that the age of enlistment be changed to twenty-one years and

for music boys to twelve years; and that the British system of military pensions be adopted here.

The Springfield armory is especially commended to the good-will of Congress; the appropriation for torpedoes and other purposes asked for by the engineer corps is endorsed, and an increase of appropriations for arming and equipping the militia is earnestly urged. No further suggestion is offered upon the subject of breech-loaders, and we have only the statement that sufficient information will doubtless be derived from the use of experimental arms in the field to enable a board to recommend some system for adoption. We hope, too, that in this way or in some other sufficient information will be obtained to enable the Ordnance Department to decide upon some standard calibre to which all gun-makers can conform. As the result of their serious neglect of duty is leaving them without any guide on this point, the various States are adopting or discussing the adoption of different calibres for their guns, which is a far more serious matter than their adoption of different patterns of breech-loaders, in the absence of any positive recommendation from Washington on that subject.

The Signal Service comes in for a handsome notice from the Secretary, as more extensive and better organized than that of any other country. General SHERIDAN receives an unqualified endorsement of his action at Chicago; the officers whose duty it is to supervise the accounts of disbursing officers get a sharp rap over the knuckles for their neglect of duty, by which such defalcations as that of Paymaster HODGES have been made possible; and finally, Congress is once more entreated to provide some proper repository for the valuable papers which have accumulated in the various bureaus of the War Department. Possibly the destruction of Government property and Government papers at Chicago may stimulate their interest in this subject.

IN a brief reference to the Navy the President calls attention to the necessity for improving and increasing its *matériel*, upon which Secretary ROBESON in his report dwells more at length. He also endorses the plan for reducing the personnel of the service recommended by the Secretary. This is to allow the grades of admiral, vice-admiral, and commodore to lapse with the lives of those who now hold them, and to reduce the number of officers annually entering the service one-third by increasing the term of cadetship for midshipmen from four to six years, two years of which at least shall be spent at sea. These recommendations will probably be adopted, and the Navy may, under the circumstances, congratulate themselves if the work of reduction is allowed to stop there. As a corollary to his recommendation for the improvement of the *matériel* of the Navy, the Secretary directs attention to the necessity of developing our most important Navy-yards, and again urges the importance of establishing iron-ship building yards and docks, to economize expenditures on the Navy, and to aid in restoring commerce, to which subject he referred at length last year. Whatever Congress may decide as to the various plans for increasing the efficiency of our Navy, they cannot well dispute the statements of the President and the Secretary as to the need of improvement; 53 vessels with 601 guns at sea, is certainly not an extraordinary showing for a first-class power. Not even the burden of debt can justify economy which would compel this little fleet to still further diminution. Our nominal naval list of 179 vessels includes, in addition to the above, 51 monitors laid up, 17 vessels under repair, and 13 on the stocks. The remaining forty-nine comprise six vessels which are preparing for sea and nearly ready, the tugs and small vessels at the Navy-yards and stations, and the vessels laid up in ordinary, a large proportion of which are wholly unfit for use.

The Secretary refers in brief to the work of the Navy at the Midway Islands, to the expedition to the North Pole under naval direction, to the expedition sent with supplies to France, and to the surveys of the Tehuantepec and Darien isthmuses, which last, besides fulfilling their specific purpose, have added much to our geographical and general knowledge of the regions traversed. He handles the subject of Corea with caution, confining himself to a brief statement of the facts of the expedition, and making no recommendation in regard to fur-

ther action. He commends the reports of the several bureaus to attention, and particularly recommends additional appropriations for the work of the hydrographic office; recounts the particulars of the wreck of the *Sagino*; and finally presents his estimate for appropriations, congratulating himself that they are in the aggregate but twenty millions, or \$1,200,000 less than the estimates made for the current year, and more than half a million less than the appropriations made by Congress for that period.

WE have received the report of General DYER, Chief of Ordnance, which we must reserve for another week. It certainly makes a sufficiently satisfactory financial exhibit, the expenditures being about two millions, against which we have receipts from the sale of surplus arms to the amount of ten millions of dollars. The work of the year has been confined to the manufacture of supplies for the Army; of the construction of the Rock Island Arsenal; the conversion of the Springfield musket into breech-loaders; the manufacture of 22,000 Remington rifles for the Navy Department, and three or four kinds of experimental muskets and carbines for comparative trial by troops in the field: the manufacture and issue of a small number of revolvers, using the metallic cartridge; and to experiments with cast-iron and powder for heavy guns.

General DYER asks for authority to supply the States with the muskets to which they are entitled; to quiet the claims of inventors and owners of patents and inventions required for Government use; and to sell such of the arsenals as are not required, and to establish a large arsenal of construction and a powder and nitre depot. He asks that his department be again open to promotion, and urges the use of rifled guns for our fortifications, though he thinks that further experiments are required to determine what material should be used for them, including an appropriation for this purpose in his estimates. In regard to the powder experiments, we learn from other sources that some of the cake powder recently fired in a 15-inch gun gave pressures from 2,000 to 4,500 pounds, while an equal weight of very dense mammoth powder gave 14,000 pounds.

THE ball at the Academy of Music in New York in honor of the Grand Duke was in all respects one of the best-managed affairs of the kind which has been seen in New York. It was in some respects an agreeable contrast to the entertainment given eleven years previous to the Prince of Wales in the same building, when the well-meaning but untutored Peter Cooper exhibited that unfortunate youth somewhat after the fashion of a street showman with a dancing bear. The invitations were issued with the most careful discrimination, and the committee seem to have succeeded in some way in preventing the unauthorized admissions, by which the Naval ball was borne down with the weight of numbers. Conspicuous among the decorations of the building were two large paintings, one representing the liberation of the slaves by Lincoln, the other the emancipation of the serfs by Alexander. These were enlarged copies of drawings included in the design for the border to the parchment letter transmitted with Page's picture of Farragut, presented by a number of citizens of New York to the Czar, through his son. The following gentlemen had charge of this ball as floor managers: C. C. Dodge, Lloyd Aspinwall, James E. Montgomery, Henry Clews, S. J. Macy.

THE President sent the following nominations to the Senate, December 6.

PROMOTIONS.

Lieutenants in the Revenue Marine to be Captains.—George W. Moore and E. L. Deano.

Second Lieutenants in the Army to First Lieutenants.—E. C. Bartlett, W. F. Reynolds, S. Pratt, S. R. Jones, A. Cranston, O. H. Howard, M. C. Sanbourne, E. Hoppy, T. H. Capron, J. Halloran, J. B. Guthrie, Jr., H. G. Cavanaugh, H. M. McCawley, J. C. Chance, J. W. Bean, F. Rosencrantz, G. B. Pickett, T. W. Lord, E. R. Theller, J. M. Ross, and Mirand W. Saxton.

First Lieutenants to be Captains.—H. C. Cushing, J. M. J. Sauno, A. B. MacGowan, J. T. McGinness, W. M. Waterbury, H. H. Humphreys, C. Hale, W. S. McCaskey, Geo. H. Burton, S. E. Armstrong.

Reinstatements.—Captain S. C. Plummer and First Lieutenant W. P. Bainbridge; late First Lieutenant L. W. Cooke, of the Third Infantry, to be second lieutenant of the Third Infantry.

Professors in Military Academy.—Rev. John Forsythe, D. D., of New York, chaplain and professor of ethics; Major J. B. Wheeler, of the U. S. Engineers, professor of civil and military engineering.

With the above a large number of cadets to second lieutenancies, and several Army transfers are sent in, which we have not yet received.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL OF THE ARMY.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY,
WASHINGTON, November 6, 1871.

General W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

GENERAL: Since my last annual report of November 10, 1870, but few changes have been made in the boundaries of the Military Departments and Divisions, and but few changes have occurred in their commanders.

The Military Division of the East is commanded by Major-General Meade, and his two departments by Brigadier-Generals McDowell and Cooke. Recently the State of North Carolina has been detached from this division and added to that of the South for obvious reasons.

The Military Division of the South during the past year has embraced the Departments of the South and of Texas. General Halleck commands the division, and Brigadier-General Terry the Department of the South, and Colonel J. J. Reynolds that of Texas. By recent orders the Department of Texas will soon be transferred to the Division of the Missouri. The rapid progress of the railroads in Texas, and of those leading from Missouri toward Texas, changes the whole problem of supplies; and the use of troops on that frontier will be greatly facilitated by these railroads.

A new department is created in the Southwest to embrace Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi, and to supervise the forts along the Gulf of Mexico, which department will be commanded by Colonel W. H. Emory; headquarters at New Orleans.

The Military Division of the Missouri is still commanded by Lieutenant-General Sheridan, and embraces substantially all the frontier between the Mississippi river and the Rocky Mountains. This is divided into three departments, commanded respectively by Major-General Hancock, Brigadier-Generals Pope and August. By recent orders, the Department of the Plateau will be temporarily merged into the Department of the Missouri, which will give to General Pope charge of the defense of the Union Pacific Railroad, with its branches, and the Territories lying near their routes.

The Military Division of the Pacific, commanded by Major-General Schofield, remains substantially unchanged. His departments are commanded respectively by Brigadier-General Canby, Brigadier-General Ord, and Colonel Crook, Colonel Stoneman having been relieved in command of the Department of Arizona during the year by the latter.

I enclose herewith formal annual reports from nearly all these officers, describing in detail the operations of the troops under their commands, and the progress of development made during the past year, all of which are perfectly satisfactory.

By reason of the great fire in Chicago on the 7th and 8th of October, which destroyed the archives of General Sheridan's office, I am not in receipt of his annual report, nor of those of his department commanders, but I know from other official papers that the affairs committed to their charge have been fully attended to, and I hope to receive and submit their reports before the meeting of Congress.

A review of these annual reports, will, I feel assured, satisfy the Secretary of War that in whatever sphere of labor our troops have been employed, whether in maintaining good faith with our neighbors on the North, or on the Mexican border; in repressing Indian incursions and outbreaks; in protecting the well-disposed inhabitants of the South, and the sparsely settled frontiers of the West; in aiding the revenue officers in the discharge of their unpleasant duties, and in sustaining the United States marshals and courts everywhere, they have displayed a zeal and intelligence worthy their good fame established in the past. As General Halleck recommends, however, it is eminently to be desired that the sphere of action of the Army in these quasi civil cases should be better defined by statute; but in the absence of such statute we can only rely upon the intelligence and good sense of the officers specially engaged. Thus far few mistakes, if any, have been made, and the conduct of the troops has met the hearty approval of the courts, the civil officers, and even of the inhabitants against whom they have been compelled to act.

At the date of my last report the aggregate strength of the Army was:

2,488 commissioned officers.

34,370 enlisted men.

*By the act of July 15, 1870, it was provided that the number of enlisted men should be reduced to a maximum of 30,000 by or before the 1st of July, 1871.

General Orders No. 23 of the War Department, dated March 16, 1871, prescribed the manner in which this reduction should be accomplished. According to the muster rolls on file in the Adjutant-General's Office the aggregate number of enlisted men on the 30th day of June, 1871, was 29,250.

The Army is necessarily so scattered to remote and inaccessible points, and casualties are constantly happening by death, desertion, and by the expiration of terms of enlistment, that it is very difficult to ascertain the exact number of men at any one instant of time; but according to a statement prepared on the 20th of October, 1871, from the latest returns, the Army was composed as follows:

Ten regiments of cavalry, 8,800 enlisted men.
Five regiments of artillery, 3,205 enlisted men.
Twenty-five regiments of infantry, 13,742 enlisted men.
One battalion of engineers, 814 enlisted men.
Ordnance Department, 444 enlisted men.
West Point detachment, 202 enlisted men.
Signal detachment, 199 enlisted men.
Hospital stewards, 310 enlisted men.
Ordnance sergeants, 114 enlisted men.
Available recruits en route, 340 enlisted men.
Permanent recruiting parties, 904 enlisted men.
General Service men at War Department and Department Headquarters, 420 enlisted men.
Total enlisted men, 29,003.

Commissioned officers, 2,105.

Retired officers, 295.

It will thus be seen that the numbers of enlisted men and officers are within the limits prescribed by law.

In order to maintain the military establishment within the limits prescribed in the act of July 15, 1870, each company must be kept below its proportionate standard, and the consequence is that many of the companies at distant and inaccessible posts fall below a number fit for efficient military service—and it is simply an impossibility to guard against this result—and I do hope that Congress will remove the restriction, and give to the President the discretionary power to keep the companies up to a standard ranging between sixty and one hundred privates, according to the nature of the service required of the troops. Such a measure would add very much to the efficiency, and would rarely, if ever, carry the aggregate strength of the active Army above the standard of 30,000 men, now fixed by law.

I must again earnestly represent the great necessity that new regulations be provided for the government of the Army. I am aware that a competent Board of Officers is employed by your orders in the preparation of such a code, and only refer to it on account of its paramount importance, and because daily and hourly I am reminded that the old regulations, now in force, are begetting habits that will be hard to eradicate, and the sooner the old regulations are supplanted the easier will be the task of enforcing new ones. For a like reason I also repeat my recommendation that some uniform system of tactics be adopted, embracing common principles for handling all the arms of service when brought under a common commander. The whole theory of Army movements is based on the fact that one responsible head should control masses of men, and this cannot be done efficiently where one set of tactics is used for infantry, another for cavalry, and still another for artillery. I am convinced from experience that this is perfectly practicable and easy of execution, and care little whose particular system is adopted as a basis, because other changes will occur in the progress of time, and the beginning is all that is asked for, on some intelligent plan likely to result in ultimate good.

I also submit herewith a report from Colonel William F. Barry, Second Artillery, giving an interesting account of the progress of the Artillery School of Instruction at Fort Monroe, which has been under his management since its foundation in 1867. By means of this school, without any special cost to the Government, the younger officers of artillery and a due proportion of non-commissioned officers are enabled to fit themselves for that special branch of the military service without in the least interrupting the garrison duty of their respective companies.

With great respect, I am your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN, General.

GENERAL Gillmore has interrupted work at Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor, for the winter by discharging three hundred laborers employed on the earth-works.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S REPORT.

THE annual report of Surgeon-General Barnes opens with a financial statement, which we omit. Referring next to the subject of artificial limbs, we are informed that Congress having, by acts approved June 17 and 80, 1870, provided for a re-issue of artificial limbs to persons disabled in the military or naval service of the United States, leaving it optional with each to receive a limb in kind, or a stated commutation in money, the number who availed themselves of these acts up to June 30, 1871, was 8,918.

These received	In Kind.	Commutation.
Arms.....	104.....	4,067
Legs.....	1,117.....	3,114
Feet.....	5.....	51
Apparatus for Resection	23.....	538

The number of persons furnished with limbs under the acts previous to June 17, 1870, was 7,887, of whom 1,387 have not applied under the present law, and may, with few exceptions, be presumed to be dead. It thus appears that 2,398 have been admitted under the acts of June, 1870, who had not applied under the previous laws, doubtless for the reason that their injuries were of such a nature that they could not wear artificial limbs with advantage.

In regard to other subjects he says:

The monthly reports of sick and wounded received at this office for the fiscal year terminating June 30, 1871, represent an annual average mean strength of 29,365 white and 2,608 colored troops.

Among the white troops, the total number of cases of all kinds reported as taken on the sick list was 63,507, being at the rate of 2,163 per 1,000 of mean strength. (That is about two entries on sick report during the year for each man.) Of the whole number taken on sick report 54,710, or 1,863 per 1,000 of strength, were for disease alone, and 8,797, or 300 per 1,000 of strength, were wounds, accidents, and injuries of all kinds.

The average number constantly on sick report during the year was 1,480, or 51 per 1,000 of strength; of these 1,190, or 41 per 1,000 of strength, were under treatment for disease, and 290, or 10 per 1,000 of strength, for wounds, accidents, and injuries.

The total number of deaths reported was 519, or 17 per 1,000 of mean strength. Of these 363, or 12 per 1,000 of strength, died of disease, and 156, or 5 per 1,000 of strength, of wounds, accidents, and injuries.

The total mortality rate is greater than that for the previous year, the chief increase occurring in the proportion of deaths from disease. The proportion of deaths from all causes to cases treated was one death to 122 cases.

One thousand and ninety-one white soldiers are reported to have been discharged on "Surgeon's Certificate of Disability," being at the rate of 37 per 1,000 of mean strength.

The reports from the colored troops give the following figures, which do not include the white officers:

The total number of cases of all kinds reported was 3,551, or 1,362 per 1,000 of strength. Of these 2,964, or 1,137 per 1,000 of strength, were cases of disease, and 587, or 225 per 1,000 of strength, were wounds, accidents, and injuries.

The average number constantly on sick report was 104, or 40 per 1,000, of whom 74, or 28 per 1,000, were under treatment for disease, and 30, or 12 per 1,000, for wounds, accidents, and injuries.

The number of deaths from all causes reported was 49, or 19 per 1,000 of strength. Of these 28, or 11 per 1,000 of strength, died of disease, and 21, or 8 per 1,000 of strength, of wounds, accidents, and injuries. The proportion of deaths from all causes to cases treated was 1 to 72.

The number of discharges on "Surgeon's Certificate of Disability" was 71, being at the rate of 27 per 1,000 of mean strength.

The official demands for information from the files of Record and Pension Division have diminished but little during the year. As heretofore, the inquiries refer chiefly to the cause of death, or discharge from service, and the hospital history of soldiers dead or disabled during the war of the Rebellion. The books of the closed general hospitals and other records on file, give the information sought in a majority of instances; but a tedious search is often required, particularly when the inquiry refers to the hospital history of a soldier who has been transferred from hospital to hospital during the progress of his treatment. Cases of this class have formed recently a large proportion of the inquiries, making the labor of reply great, while as the information is needed for the settlement of pension and other claims, the utmost accuracy is required in each case to protect the interest of the Government as well as to do justice to the applicant.

At the commencement of the fiscal year 3,440 such applications were awaiting reply, and 19,844 new applications were received during the year, making a total of 23,284 applications to be searched and replied to.

Owing to the inadequate clerical force search could not be made and replies furnished in all of these cases, although 14,040 were acted upon, leaving 9,244 unanswered at the close of the fiscal year. This has now, however, been remedied by the increase recently authorized by the Honorable Secretary of War, and it is hoped that within a year all this accumulated business will be disposed of, and that it will be possible thereafter to furnish the desired information with reasonable dispatch.

There were entered on the registers the histories of 5,210 surgical cases of the late war, making a total of 235,398 now recorded; also, additional information respecting 9,061 cases already recorded, and prepared for revision abstracts of 8,947 cases which were not placed on the permanent registers. The hospital record of 22,756 men was searched; 16,008 names were indexed. The Pension Medical Examiners' reports of the condition, at the latest dates, of mutilated men, were transcribed in 2,564 instances. Histories of surgical cases were furnished to other departments of the Government in 65 instances.

The Army Medical Museum continues to increase in the number and variety of specimens and its consequent usefulness. The number of specimens added during the year was 1,516, a present total of 15,018.

The number of visitors was over 15,000 during the year.

Medical and Surgical History of the War, etc.—Part First of the Medical and Surgical History of the War is near completion, and will be laid before Congress during its coming session, when it is hoped sufficient appropriation will be made to continue the publication of the remaining parts. Circular No. 4, a report upon barracks and hospitals, with a description of military posts throughout the United States, compiled by Assistant Surgeon J. S. Billings, U. S. Army; Circular No. 3, 1870, approved plans and specifications for post hospitals—also a revised edition of the same (Circular No. 2, 1871), have been published during the year, and the Standard Supply Table of the Medical Department of the Army (Circular No. 1, 1871), has been carefully revised and published with a view to more rigid responsibility and greater efficiency.

Number of Medical Officers, etc.—At the date of my last annual report 2 vacancies in the grade of surgeon and 42 in assistant surgeon of the Army existed. During the past year 1 surgeon and 1 assistant surgeon have died, 1 assistant surgeon has retired, 1 assistant surgeon has been cashiered, leaving at present 54 vacancies in the corps, viz: Chief Medical Purveyor, 1 assistant medical purveyor, 3 surgeons, and 49 assistant surgeons. The number of military posts requiring medical attendance were on July 1, 1871, 206, at many of which the number of troops was so large, or the nature of the duties so onerous, that the services of two medical officers were constantly required at them. If the restrictions as to the promotions and appointments in the medical corps were removed at once, it would require several years through the prescribed modes of annual examination to restore it to the standard number allowed by existing laws, and the reduction of that number by stoppage of promotion and appointments has proven to be prejudicial to the interests of the service both in a sanitary and economical view.

THE INDIANS IN ARIZONA.

THE following order has been issued by General Sheridan, relative to the Apache Indians under his jurisdiction:

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION
OF THE MISSOURI

CHICAGO, ILL., Nov. 20, 1871.

General Orders No. 8.

To carry out the wishes of the Secretary of the Interior, and instructions of the Secretary of War relating to the southern and other roving bands of Apache Indians, the following is ordered:

1. The Valley of the Tularosa, in Mexico, beginning at the headwaters of this river and its tributaries in the mountains, and extending down the Tularosa ten miles each side for a distance of thirty miles, is declared and hereby announced to be an Indian reservation, for the sole use of the southern and other roving bands of Apache Indians, now in or who may hereafter come into New Mexico, their agents and other officers, and such officers and employees of the military service as may be designated by competent military authority.

2. The Indians at the Cañada Alamosa Agency, and all roving Apaches now in New Mexico, are hereby commanded to go immediately to the Tularosa Reservation, remain there and preserve peaceable relations with the Government, the white people, and with each other. They are notified that they will not be permitted to place their old men, women and children on the reservation, and send their young men and braves on the war-path. As long as the Indians remain on the reservation, and conduct themselves peaceably, they will be fully protected and provided for by the Government; if they fail to go upon the reservation in due time after having been informed of this order, or leave it after having once gone there, they will become subjects of suspicion—liable to attack as hostile. The terms and conditions of this order will be applied to all Apaches who may hereafter go into New Mexico.

3. All concerned are hereby notified that the Government is determined, if possible, to preserve peace between the whites and Indians, and to allow neither to deprecate or trespass on the other, and it is the command of the President that the Indians be protected on their reservation, and under no pretence shall their reservation be trespassed upon, nor shall it be invaded except under the leadership of the commanding officer having charge of them.

4. The troops will co-operate with and aid the Indian Bureau to the full extent of their ability in transferring Indians to the Tularosa Reservation. A military post will be established as soon as practicable, and full protection given to the Indians who remain peaceably on the reservation. If, from want of supplies, the Indian Bureau shall at any time be unable to provide for the Indians on the reservation, such issues will be made from the Army supplies as may be necessary for the support of all the Indians who act in good faith.

5. The commanding-general Department of the Missouri is charged with executing this order, and with issuing such further instructions as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes indicated. He will have the various bands of roving Apaches in New Mexico, or who may hereafter come there, informed as soon as practicable of the requirements herein set forth, and at the earliest convenient season will fix more specifically the boundaries of their reservation.

6. After general notice to Indians and whites of the policy above defined, the department commander may feel assured that whatever measures of severity he may adopt to reduce these Apaches to a peaceful and subordinate condition, will be approved by the War Department and the President.

By command of Lieutenant-General SHERIDAN.
Official—JAMES B. FRY, assistant adjutant-general.

The following order has been issued from the headquarters of the Military Division of the Pacific:

In accordance with authority and orders received from the War Department, the following instructions are given for the government of Indians subject to military control in the Territory of Arizona:

All roving bands of Indians for which reservations have been set apart by the Indian commissioner, under the authority of the President of the United States, will be required to go at once upon their reservations, and not to leave them again upon any pretext whatever. So long as they remain upon their reservations in due subordination to the Government, they will be fully protected and provided for; otherwise they will be regarded as hostile, and punished accordingly: The reservations heretofore set apart will be publicly declared in General Orders from headquarters from the Department of Arizona, and an officer of the Army will be designated by the department commander to act as Indian agent for each reservation.

All male Indians (old enough to go upon the war-path) will be enrolled, and their names will be recorded in a book kept for that purpose, with a full and accurate descriptive list of each person. Each Indian will be furnished with a copy of his descriptive list, and will be required to carry it always with him. The numbers of women and children belonging to each head of family will also be recorded opposite his name in the descriptive book. The presence on the reservation of every male adult will be verified once a day, or oftener, if found necessary, to prevent the possibility of any leaving the reservation and returning without the knowledge of the officer in charge. Care will be taken to inform the Indians that this precaution is intended to insure the protection of the innocent and punishment of the guilty, and that it is to their interest to assist in the detection of guilty individuals, so that the whole tribe may not suffer for the crimes of a few. And as far as possible the Indians will be held responsible only for their own individual acts. Punishment will not be inflicted upon a tribe for the acts of individuals, unless they are guilty of complicity with the criminals by harboring them or otherwise. But when any enrolled Indian is found absent from his reservation without permission, all his family will be arrested and kept in close custody until he has been captured and punished according to his deserts.

Every Indian found off his reservation without permission, after a time to be fixed by the department commander, will be regarded and treated as hostile, and any Indian who shall so leave his reservation shall be presumed to have done so for hostile purposes, and upon his return to the reservation shall be arrested and punished accordingly. No Indian will be given permission to leave his reservation, except upon such conditions as the department commander may prescribe.

No persons excepting those in the United States service will be allowed upon any Indian reservation without the permission of the officer in charge. Citizens desiring to enter or cross a reservation for any legitimate purpose will, when it is deemed practicable and proper, be permitted to do so, but will always be escorted by a sufficient detachment of troops to prevent any collision with the Indians. The ration for issue to adult Indians will consist of one pound of meat and one pound of breadstuffs, two quarts of salt to each one hundred rations, and four pounds of soap to a hundred rations once a week. Rations in half of the above proportions will be issued to children under twelve years of age. Beef will be issued on the hoof. An officer will always be present to witness and direct the slaughtering of beef, and the distribution of food among the separate bands and families, and will certify to the commanding officer that it is fairly done. The utmost care will be taken to see that rations are issued only for the number of Indians actually present, and that no opportunity is afforded for the barter of provisions for arms, ammunition, whiskey, or anything whatever. Active operations will be kept up against the hostile Apaches of Arizona, and pressed with all practical vigor until they submit to the authority of the Government, cease from hostilities and remain upon their reservations. After a reasonable time has been given for all the Apaches to avail themselves of the liberal terms afforded by the Government, the department commander will, in his discretion, make use of the friendly Indians to hunt out and destroy those who remain obstinately hostile. Full authority is conferred upon the department commander to adopt such measures as may be necessary to carry out these instructions, and to give full effect to the policy of the Government.

By order of Major-General Schofield.

J. C. KELTON, assistant adjutant-general.

THE following is an extract from a private letter received by a gentleman in Washington from a member of Lieutenant Wheeler's party. It is dated Camp Whipple, near Prescott, Arizona, November 7, 1871, a date earlier than that of despatches affirming that the outrage had been fixed upon Indians who had been traced in the direction of their reservations:

Loring, Hammell, and Salmon, of Lieutenant Wheeler's party, were on the stage to go home. Besides these, the passengers were Mr. Kruger, a German; a Mr. Adams, a jeweler, of Prescott; and "Moll Shepard," a disreputable character. The stage was an open box wagon, topped with canvas, with sides let down. The back, being generally down, is somewhat protected from sight at least, while the front is open to full view. An escort went with them, as usual, through the dangerous country—that is, as far as Wickenburg. Six miles beyond this place they were suddenly fired into. I do not know how much damage was then done, except that the driver's arm was broken. Still he drove on some distance till shot through the head, when the unguided horses turned back towards home and into danger. Kruger and Moll were on the back seat, not so easily seen, and escaped, except with wounds. Both emptied their pistols, and managed to jump out before the horses

turned back and ran on ahead. In a mile or two they met the "buckboard" going the other way. The driver took them on, and, fearful of being followed, turned back. Finally he left them and the mail in the bushes, took a horse, and, by a trail, reached the Vulture Mill, near Wickenburg, got assistance, and returned to the scene of the murder. Two of the victims were foud shot in the eye, two in the forehead, and one in the back of the head. An old man with a black beard, who had fought hard, was missing, and may have escaped. This man must have been Hammell. Heavy rifle cartridges were found, and their use was probable from the great number of shots fired, there being twenty through the stage. The mail had been opened, and such letters as would contain money examined, and the baggage searched for money. No horses, nor guns, nor bright blankets, nor any such things as Indians covet, were taken. There is no doubt about it, they were not Indians nor Mexicans; the shooting was too good. White men did it—"road agents," as they are technically termed here. They generally simply rob. It was reported that a man was asked some time ago, at Wickenburg, to rob the stage that brought "Moll Shepard" down, as she would have much money. Kruger, also, had much money with him, and he was a Government agent of some kind. The murderers did not find the greater part of the latter's money, and seem to have fled precipitately.

(From the London News of November 24.)

GENERAL SHERMAN'S EUROPEAN TOUR.

A CORDIAL WELCOME ASSURED HIM IN ENGLAND.

EUROPE is about to have an opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of one of the most distinguished soldiers whom the New World has yet produced. General Sherman is taking his first holiday, and is to enjoy it on this side of the water. He will be received everywhere with interest and respect, with a good deal of mere curiosity perhaps in many places, but with a cordial welcome in all. No other Northern soldier excited so much interest and admiration in Europe while the war was going on. Even the more brilliant and dashing exploits of the younger officer, General Philip Sheridan, did not awaken the same feeling of surprise as the famous march through Georgia to the sea. Other wars closer to our doors have thundered in our ears since that time, but we have not yet forgotten the sensation which thrilled through Europe when General Sherman emerged at Savannah, having accomplished his mysterious and almost romantic enterprise, and the world knew that the great War of Secession was practically over. In this country we know only three names in connection with the history of the Northern armies—those of Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan—all by a strange coincidence sons of the same State of Ohio. It is probably safe to say that Europe and America alike rank General Grant for mere military genius scarcely so high as either General Sherman or General Sheridan; while the man whom nine out of every ten Americans in the military service or out of it regard as the greatest soldier on the Northern side, the late General Thomas, is scarcely remembered even by name on our side of the Atlantic. General Sherman, on this side the most admired of all, hardly gets all the credit, or the kind of credit, he deserves. He is thought of only as the leader of the march to the sea, and it is seldom remembered that he alone, from the very first, understood, appreciated, and foresaw the importance of the struggle in which the United States were about to be engaged. When statesmen talked of a war of sixty days, and military authorities called for a levy of 70,000 men, General Sherman vainly endeavored to persuade the Executive that a great war was impending, asked for 200,000 soldiers for the operations in his district alone, and was laughed at and called a madman for his pains. For a long time he was hardly understood in his own country. How little he was understood in England is shown by the fact that, almost up to the eve of his complete and splendid success, the series of military operations which culminated at Savannah, and which are now proved by every possible evidence, documentary and otherwise, to have been one connected, long-prepared, and symmetrical plan, were described by many English critics as the retreat of a discomfited and hopeless commander. Nearly alone among our contemporaries, we held the opposite view. Perhaps the sudden fame which General Sherman acquired in Europe was partly due to the amazement caused by the discovery that where people supposed he had been surprised by defeat, he had simply been organizing victory.

A DESPATCH to the *Herald* says:

Now that General Sherman is well off at sea in the *Wabash*, one of his ill-considered acts, that now and again almost arise to the dignity of blunders, is in process of rectification. The Department of the Platte has been established, and Brigadier-General Ord is on his way from California to command it. The organization of the military depots and the distribution of the troops are necessarily left pretty much to the discretion of the general in command. Sandwiched between some sensible recommendations looking to a better government of the Army on the Plains, and a better management of Indian matters, was one for the abolition of a military depot embracing in its limits two States and two Territories, the great line of communication and transport to the Pacific, several of the largest military posts, the Mormon strongholds, *en masse*, two large supply depots, and about fifty companies of cavalry and infantry. This slipped through, and the Department of the Platte was added to that of the Missouri, already larger than could be conveniently managed. When the working arrangements came to be made, so many difficulties arose that the shortest way out of them was found to be the undoing of what had been done, and the re-establishment of the former state of affairs. The old commander, General Angur, has not been recalled, because wanted for more active service in Texas; so General Ord has been trans-

ferred to Omaha. General O. O. Howard will probably succeed him in the command of the Department of California.

IN General Orders No. 1, headquarters Department of the Gulf, New Orleans, La., November 28, 1871, Brevet Major-General W. H. Emory, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of the Gulf. The limits of the department are defined to be "the States of Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and the Gulf posts as far eastward as, and embracing Fort Jefferson and Key West;" excluding "the military posts in Mobile Bay." The department staff is designated as follows: Major George L. Febiger, chief paymaster; Major Amos Beckwith, chief commissary of subsistence; Major John F. Randolph, surgeon U. S. Army, medical director; Major James Belger, chief quartermaster; Lieutenant Charles King, Fifth Cavalry, aide-de-camp, will act for the present as adjutant-general of the department.

THE Revenue Marine Hospital Service has assumed such importance as to sever the control which the Revenue Marine Bureau has heretofore held over it, and establish it as an independent division. Dr. Woodworth, supervising surgeon of the Revenue Marine Hospital Service, has been placed at its head. Less appropriation will be asked for to carry the objects of this service than any previous year. It is contemplated to erect a new marine hospital at San Francisco. The proposition to sell the present hospital at Pittsburg and erect a less expensive one is under consideration, as the site on which the building stands is very valuable property. A similar purpose is also entertained in relation to the hospital at Portland, Maine.

GENERAL Orders No. 23, from Headquarters District of New Mexico, Santa Fé, New Mexico, November 21, 1871, direct that all officers of the Army, detachments of soldiers, and all other persons connected with the military service of the United States, travelling under orders with Government transportation from the different posts of the district to Fort Union, N. M., and *vice versa*, will pursue the most direct route upon which forage agencies are established, and in no case will pass by the way of Santa Fé, N. M., unless special authority for so doing be previously granted from these headquarters.

THE contract for the model of the equestrian statue of General McPherson has been awarded to Mr. Louis Rebisse, of Cincinnati. The monument contemplated is to be erected at Clyde, Ohio, the former residence of the General. The association having the matter in charge have a fund of \$15,000 contributed by admirers of the General, and forty brass cannon donated by Congress for the salute. The design for the monument contemplates a granite pedestal twenty feet high, upon which the bronze statue, fifteen feet high, is to be placed.

A DESPATCH from Calcutta, December 1, via London, December 2, 1871, announces that a terrible explosion has occurred in the powder and cartridge factory in the fort of Agra. The men were at work at the time of the disaster, and few escaped. Thirty-six were killed, among them two commissioned officers.

GENERAL Count Kamolincki died recently in Paris at the age of eighty-six. He was one of the most illustrious members of the Polish emigration of 1831.

THE following is a list of the principal Committees of the House of Representatives as now organized:

Military Affairs—Coburn of Indiana, Stoughton of Michigan, Hay of Illinois, Donau of Iowa, Morey of Louisiana, Harris of Missouri, Slocum of New York, Campbell of Ohio, Terry of Virginia.

Militia—Sheldon of Louisiana, Sprague of Ohio, Twitchell of Massachusetts, Walls of Florida, Busk of Wisconsin, Connor of Texas, Blair of Missouri, Acker of Pennsylvania, Tutill of New York.

Naval Affairs—Schofield of Pennsylvania, Starkweather of Connecticut, Ketcham of Kentucky, Hayes of Alabama, Platt of Virginia, Coghlan of California, Archer of Maryland, Sutherland of Michigan, Whitthorne of Tennessee.

Expenditures of the War Department—Williams of Indiana, Barker of Wisconsin, Snyder of Arkansas, Acker of Pennsylvania, Kin-sella of New York.

Expenditures of the Navy Department—Kellogg of Connecticut, Parker of Missouri, Hoseller of Wisconsin, Biggs of Delaware, Tutill of New York.

Indian Affairs—Shanks of Indiana, Burdett of Missouri, Smith of Ohio, Averill of Minnesota, Creely of Pennsylvania, Edwards of Arkansas, Adams of Kentucky, Mitchell of Wisconsin, Williams of New York.

Invalid Pensions—Moore of Illinois, Peck of Ohio, Wallace of South Carolina, McKunkin of Pennsylvania, Wakeman of New York, Turner of Alabama, Bird of New Jersey, Manson of Indiana, Spear of Pennsylvania.

Ways and Means—Dawes of Massachusetts, Maynard of Tennessee, Kelley of Pennsylvania, Brooks of New York, Finkelnburg of Missouri, Burchard of Illinois, E. H. Roberts of New York, Kerr of Indiana, Beck of New York.

Appropriations—Garfield of Ohio, Sargent of California, Dickey of Pennsylvania, Clarke of New York, Palmer of Iowa, Hale of Maine, Niblack of Indiana, Marshall of Illinois, Swan of Maryland.

Foreign Affairs—Banks of Massachusetts, Myers of Pennsylvania, Willard of Vermont, Ambler of Ohio, Duell of New York, Packard of Maryland, Wood of New York, Morgan of Ohio, Robinson of Illinois.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

THE following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

ARMY.

DECEMBER 1.

Cassins, Wm., Major. Sloan, Samuel C., Captain.
Hawley, General. Warren, Captain.
Stedman, J. B., Major-General. Wilson, J., Major.

DECEMBER 5.

Belden, Geo. H., Colonel. Slater, W., Captain.
Fletcher, Major. Sheldon, A. W., Captain.
Martindale, E., Colonel. Wallace, Joseph, Captain.
Wenner, Geo., Colonel.

A letter has been received at this office for Lieutenant Robert Carter, Fourth U. S. Cavalry

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Rifle Association, held December 1, the secretary was directed to call the attention of the incorporators to the following extracts from the by-laws of the association: Article IX. 1. The initiation fee of each member shall be \$3, and the annual dues \$2, payable in advance at the time of joining. 2. The payment of \$25 shall constitute the person paying a life member, and exempt him from all claims for dues or assessments. He was also directed to inform the incorporators that to bring the association into public notice and insure its success, it is important that funds should be provided at once to meet the necessary expense of printing, etc., and to therefore request them to constitute themselves life members, and to induce as many of their friends as possible to become such. The treasurer is General John B. Woodward, No. 195 Water street. We hope this notice will receive due attention from all interested in the success of the association.

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the association was held on Tuesday evening at General Shaler's headquarters in Mercer street, Colonel W. C. Church, vice-president, in the chair. The following gentlemen were appointed a committee on location of grounds for a range: Major-General Shaler, A. W. Craven, General Funk, Colonel Mason, John Powell, Jr., Colonel Shaw, J. W. Harding, Captain Wingate, and Major Smith. The finance committee appointed were Messrs. Dimmock, Woodward, and Varian. A circular setting forth the objects of the association is to be distributed among the National Guard. The chairman stated that he had received a letter from the Remington Arms Company, offering twenty-five highly finished rifles, valued each at \$50, as prizes to be contested for by the National Guard, and also a letter from the Gatling Gun Company, offering a gun exceeding \$2,000 in value as a grand regimental prize. A vote of thanks was tendered to each of the companies making these offers. A motion was adopted requesting Captain Wingate to prepare a manual of aiming-drill; after which the meeting adjourned, having first elected the following gentlemen members of the association: Colonel W. W. Remmey, Albon Man, Whitman Runyon, Wm. Man, R. Kelly Styles, A. Alford, and Alex McDonald.

The hall used for the meeting is the headquarters of the Fire Commissioners, General Shaler being one of the commissioners. During the evening an alarm of fire was sounded and General Shaler improved the opportunity to explain to the members of the association the workings of the fire-alarm telegraph, and to exhibit it in full working condition.

TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.—On Monday evening, December 11, this "crack" command open the ball season by a grand reception of its friends at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. The elegant character of these so termed promenade concert are perhaps too well known to need any particular praise or recommendation on our part. We, however, would advise those who wish to participate in the dance and promenade, or linger a few hours in the presence of some of the fairest of the fair, adorned in the most elaborate, artistic, and latest modes of feminine toilets, to purchase a ticket for the Twenty-third's promenade. Excellent music, under the direction of Messrs. Papst and Conterno, likewise will tend to the enchantment of the scene.

The Twenty-third is recruiting rapidly, and Colonel Ward and the officers are fully alive to the requirements of the regiment. Still this command, like many others of the division, suffer continually from lack of a suitable armory, without which it will be almost impossible to reach anywhere near the maximum standard.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—Company K, Captain John E. Dowley, on the evening of December 13 holds its annual reception at Irving Hall. Special provisions have been made by Captain Dowley, the commandant of the company, and the members generally, to make this reception eclipse, in style, perfection of arrangements, and selectness, any former effort of the company. Two well-known bands have been engaged for promenading and dancing purposes, and the handsome character of the invitations is in itself a guarantee of selectness.

On the 19th of last April the field officers of this command, Colonel Ward, Lieutenant-Colonel Gildersleeve, and Major Cruger, to induce more active recruiting, offered two money prizes, namely: 1. A prize of \$200 to the company, between that date and the 1st of November, 1871, able to muster at least ten recruits, thoroughly uniformed and equipped (full-dress and fatigue), in addition to those already enrolled, provided that the company show a majority of recruits over any other competing company. 2. The company showing at the time specified the next number of recruits, thoroughly uniformed and equipped (at least seven being required), to receive a prize of \$100. This generous offer, it seems, created some little rivalry between the several companies of the regiment, so that during the past summer about sixty new men were secured to the regiment, all of whom are fully equipped according to the requirements of the field officer's offer. This, however, must not be understood as the extent of the regimental recruiting during this period, which, we are informed, far exceeds this in number, when the recruits not yet fully uniformed and equipped are included. In accordance with regimental orders company commanders were directed to assemble their recruits on Monday evening for

special inspection at the regimental armory. In some instances the attendance was not large, and a few of the companies had not shown very active recruiting during the past summer. Others, again, reported all their recruits, only a portion of whom were uniformed and equipped according to the prescribed order of the field officers, and were therefore excluded from direct competition. There were, likewise, several instances where new recruits had procured both uniforms, but through unforeseen circumstances had to be "dropped" from the roll. The following return of Adjutant Murphy gives the number of men recruited by the several companies from April 1 to November 1: Company A, 6; B, 13; C, 1; D, 5; E, 9; F, 9; G, 3; H, 8; I, 2; K, 3. Total, 59 men. Of these Company B inspected ten men fully uniformed and equipped, fatigue and full-dress, according to the agreement, and therefore received the first prize of two hundred dollars. Company E (Webster Guard) inspected seven men as above, and received the second prize of one hundred dollars. The Twelfth has a commander who constantly but quietly works for its interest, who spares neither money nor energy to advance its progress and add to its general *esprit de corps*. Only those who understand the interior workings of the Twelfth can comprehend the constant attention given the regiment by Colonel John Ward, its modest commandant. In this work the colonel has the hearty co-operation of his two field officers, the adjutant, and the officers generally of the regiment. There are, however, a few sluggards in the regiment who should be made to vacate their positions for the good of the service. These officers, we admit, are found in all regiments, and the sooner the National Guard is rid of these men the better for all concerned.

SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.—Lieutenant-Colonel Wolcott, of this command, has again tendered his resignation, which has been accepted at General Headquarters, and he has been honorably discharged the service, and an election ordered to fill the vacancy, on the evening of December 11, at the regimental armory. In the retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel Wolcott the American Guard loses one of its most faithful officers, one who at all times and on all occasions has proved his ability to control a regiment and manage its affairs with promptitude and energy. We trust his successor will be equal to the emergency, and as highly esteemed by the regiment at large.

RIFLE MATCH IN NEW JERSEY.—On Thanksgiving day, Company E, Fourth regiment New Jersey National Guard, visited Greenville, on Newark Bay, for rifle practice. Arrived at the range, a squad match was resolved upon. Lieutenants Abernethy and McLaughlin alternately selected their men from the company. There being an odd man, he, to equalize the chances, fired five shots in each squad. The shooting was according to the Hythe system, ten rounds, two hundred yards, off shoulder. The weather was bitter cold, and a strong gale prevailed. Lieutenant Abernethy's squad won by a majority of 41 points. The day's firing over, the company sat down to a well-served Thanksgiving dinner, at the Tivoli House. The following are the scores:

LIEUTENANT ABERNETHY'S SQUAD.	
First Lieutenant H. H. Abernethy.....	2 3 3 2 2 3 2 4 2 3—36
Corporal A. J. Tuttle.....	2 3 3 2 2 3 2 2 2—23
Private H. Rowlands.....	2 2 3 2 2 4 2 0 2—20
Sergeant John A. Parker.....	0 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2—19
Private F. Orr.....	2 2 0 0 3 2 2 3 2—18
Private John Berrian.....	3 3 2 2 3 0 0 0 0—15
Private E. H. Walsh.....	0 0 2 2 2 2 0 2 3—13
Sergeant S. D. Dickinson.....	2 3 0 0 0 0 2 4 0—13
Private C. O. Reilly.....	0 0 0 2 3 0 2 3 0—12
Private George Deane.....	0 2 0 2 0 2 2 0 4—12
Corporal A. W. McGowan.....	0 0 2 0 0 0 2 0 3—9
Corporal E. E. Datz.....	2 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 2—8
Private E. L. Alker.....	0 0 0 0 2.....—2

LIEUTENANT M'LAUGHLIN'S SQUAD.	
Private Frank Woolsey.....	2 2 3 3 2 3 3 2 2 3—25
Private A. A. Coykendall.....	2 2 0 2 2 3 3 3 2—21
Corporal Oscar Scarry.....	2 2 0 2 2 3 2 2 3—18
First Sergeant John A. Onslow.....	2 0 2 2 3 3 2 0 3—17
Private H. W. Palmer.....	4 0 2 0 2 3 2 2 2—17
Private J. H. Van Benschoten.....	0 0 2 0 2 2 2 2 3—15
Private George F. Robertson.....	0 2 2 2 2 0 3 2—13
Second Lieutenant George H. McLaughlin.....	0 3 2 0 0 0 3 0 0—8
Private F. Fredericks.....	0 0 0 2 0 0 3 0 0—5
Sergeant William L. Jones.....	0 0 0 0 2 2 0 0 4—4
Private A. H. Garretson.....	0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 2—2
Private F. V. Vondy.....	2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2—2
Private E. L. Alker.....	0 0 0 0 2.....—2

The Remington rifle, Spanish model, was used in the contest and gave great satisfaction to the competitors.

THE RIGHT OF WAY—INFANTRY V. CAVALRY.—We published in the last number of the JOURNAL a communication from a non-commissioned officer of the First division complaining in strong terms of the conduct of a mounted aide who, he alleges, on the occasion of the Grand Duke's reception rode through the regiments, always taking pains to pass on the side of the guide, even against remonstrances of the guide of one of the companies, etc. Since we have ascertained a few of the particulars and learned the names of the parties directly concerned and the circumstances, we are satisfied that an explanation is demanded. The staff officer criticised is of the First brigade staff, is a cavalry officer of long service, and known to be one of the best horsemen in the First division. The sergeant in question, one of the veterans of the fourth company of the Seventh, is unqualifiedly a good soldier, and we cannot understand his conduct on this occasion. It appears the staff officer, in a strict performance of his duties, civilly requested to be allowed to pass, but was denied by the sergeant mentioned, who, it is alleged, in strong language endeavored to interfere in his passage down

the column and again on his return. In the second passage of the aide to the rear, this sergeant, although again civilly requested to make way refused, and after being warned repeatedly that he would be ridden over unless he made way, still persisted and actually forced the aide to pass him at the risk of knocking him down. The officer in question is well-known for his sobriety and unassuming deportment on all occasions, and we must express surprise that any sergeant of the Seventh should attempt to interfere with the duties of a superior. The officer was undoubtedly correct in maintaining his position, and it would have been far better for the guides to give way than that the fronts should be diminished to afford a passage.

The law of the road in the United States is invariably, "keep to the right," for parties passing in opposite directions, "turn out to the left" in passing parties going in the same direction. The universal rule since the days of Julius Cæsar is that troops on the march must make way for mounted officers or orderlies having orders to deliver; and on stating their business, commanding officers are bound to protect them and see that this portion of the Regulations is carried out. We trust there will never be another instance of this kind in the division, and that commanding officers will hereafter avoid all unnecessary transmittal of orders that may tend to interfere with the passage of troops in narrow and overcrowded streets of the city.

AN EXCELLENT SYSTEM.—The people of Canada, the Vermont *Herald* thinks, have attained the chief object in devising a militia system, which is to discover a method whereby the whole able-bodied male population may be trained to the use of arms without any lengthened detention of the men from their industrial pursuits. The people of Canada seem to have come nearer the attainment of that end than any other. The real militia of the Dominion is organized under a law which orders the enrollment, discipline, and payment of forty thousand men. The law requires of these men but sixteen days' drill in the year, but the spirit of competition among the men leads them to drill at least once a week, while they spend the whole of the time for which they are paid under the canvas. The officering of this force is provided for by military schools. One of the best features of this system is the constant target practice to which the men are subjected. The expense of maintaining this force amounts to a little less than twenty-eight dollars per man. The majority of the men drop out of the ranks when their terms of service has expired, leaving their places to be occupied by others, so that at least five thousand men are added to the drilled force every year.

We see no reason why the States cannot carry into effect a similar system. The time is fast approaching when a more uniform government of the National Guard of the United States will have to be enforced, and more liberality displayed by both State and United States authorities.

WILL CONGRESS AID THE NATIONAL GUARD?—We published last week a summary of the strength of the National Guard in the different States, and the means appropriated for its sustenance, taken from a pamphlet compiled by a Pennsylvania National Guard officer, and circulated for the purpose of bringing before the State and United States authorities the real condition of our militia, and the necessity of some efficient measures for improving its condition and providing for its support. The writer, who evidently has the welfare of the National Guard at heart, follows the aforementioned summary with some remarks as to a general law for the "government of the State forces, and calls on Congress to supply the deficiency in this regard. The ideas of the writer should receive particular attention on the part of our National Guardsmen, and some means should be employed immediately to bring this subject before the Congress of the United States. There is no sufficient reason why the general Government should not appropriate money and aid the States to a large degree in sustaining a National Guard worthy of so great a Republic. Past experience and a greatly reduced Army should show the necessity of increasing and properly organizing a National Guard ready at all times for emergencies. It is, however, unnecessary for us to discuss this subject further, as this writer covers in his remarks all that is requisite. We trust that his sound views will command the influence they deserve, and be the means of opening a discussion on the subject which will eventually result in the accomplishment of something practical. The writer, after stating the reasons for his publication, says:

The reverses that befell us in the early part of the late war are fast becoming a mere matter of history. That they have already lost the influence usually exerted by experience may be seen in the foregoing summary! The States that in 1861 were foremost in sending organized regiments to the defence of the capital occupy the same position in regard to their willingness and ability to do so to-day. But, while these States are appropriating their hundreds of thousands of dollars every year to keep their National Guard in an efficient condition, other States are standing aloof, refusing to appropriate a single dollar in the cause in which they have an equal interest. The course the latter States pursue is neither honorable nor just! It serves, however, to prove conclusively that it is the duty of Congress to take charge of the matter of organizing the National Guard, and to require the several States to provide for the expenses thereof the same as for the support of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of their government.

It is at this point that the obstacle is encountered. It is universally admitted that every government, whether municipal, State, or general, requires a military force at times to preserve its existence or its laws from violence. To furnish this force at the least possible cost is the prob-

lem to be solved. In European countries it has been deemed most economical to keep large standing armies at all times. To adopt such a course in this country would be to set in opposition to the feelings and sentiments of our people, and, as we are geographically disconnected from any powerful neighbor, we endeavor to find the solution of the problem in the word "militia," notwithstanding that it is a word that, with us, has become almost meaningless, or, at best, a word that means something that has little or no substance in it, as we learned to our cost in 1861. (It is believed that not a single State then relied upon its militia laws to raise its quota of troops called for by the General Government.)

The subject of the militia has been deemed one worthy of the legislators' attention in the several States as soon as the States have been organized. There is scarce a single State to-day without its militia law. Yet, in most cases, these laws are deficient in that essential principle that is prerequisite to the efficiency of any law! In the vast majority of cases these laws fail to provide for the adequate remuneration of those who are to perform the duties imposed by the laws. It would scarce be credited, were the various penalties prescribed by these laws for non-performance of duty in the active or uniformed militia, to be enumerated here; and yet, a citizen may in most States avoid the penalties by merely keeping himself disconnected from these organizations, and in other States by paying annually a small commutation tax—so small, in fact, that it is entirely absorbed in many cases in the cost of collection.

The system of imposing all the burden and the expenses of the militia upon that class of citizens who are between twenty-one and forty-five years of age is a very unjust one! All classes, of citizens, of whatever age, have an interest in maintaining a military force to support the civil authorities. To those who are possessed of wealth it is a matter of vital importance, no matter what their personal age may be, whether they are under or over forty-five years of age, they require to be protected in the enjoyment of their wealth, and should therefore be required to contribute to the support of the military forces of the State upon the same principle upon which they are required to contribute to the support of the civil forces. In fact, the former are, and should be considered part of the latter.

In the State of California the system of collecting a revenue from the taxable property within the State, for the support of its National Guard, has been in operation for several years, as is noted in the foregoing summary. In the State of New Jersey all laws imposing a military tax have been repealed, and the Governor authorized to make requisition on the Treasurer for the expenses of the National Guard of that State. In the State of Connecticut, where the system of a commutation tax for raising a revenue for the National Guard has been fairly tried, the Adjutant-General submits for consideration the subject of substituting a tax upon property in lieu thereof.

In those States where a system of levying a tax on assessable property instead of levying it upon the citizens of certain ages is adopted, the citizens are relieved from the vexatious system of appeals, which is inseparable from the system of enrollment and personal tax, and the cost of the annual enrollment is saved to the State. The troops being obtained by the volunteers and the enrollment no longer an object, for should it become necessary to draft men for service at any time, an enrollment would necessarily have to be made a short time previous to the draft.

The members of the National Guard should be relieved from all necessary expenses incidental to their organization, and should also receive some compensation for their services—as in the State of New York, where they are exempt from jury duty, and entitled to an abatement of one thousand dollars on the assessed valuation of their property, during their term of service, and exempt from jury duty ever after, as shown in the summary. But these benefits should be transferable. A member not possessed of taxable property should be entitled to transfer his right to abatement to his landlord or other person, and in leaving the State he should be allowed to carry his exemption into any State where he may go. The official reports from those States where proper provision is made for sustaining their National Guard indicate that these benefits, coupled with an appropriation of — dollars per man per year, for necessary expenses, would suffice to secure a sufficient number of volunteers to keep the ranks full, and secure attendance at say six days parade, for instruction by regiment in each year, and attendance at drill, by company, one evening in each week, for say nine months in a year.

Our population by the last census is shown to be 38,555,570. One regiment of 500 to every 100,000 of population will give 385 regiments with an aggregate of 192,500, say 200,000. This force constantly under instruction (without drawing a single man away from the productive force of the States), would suffice for any emergency, and it could readily be increased by adding to the number of privates without in any way disturbing the company and regimental organization. This force would, in its normal condition, serve also as a good school for the instruction of those thousands of officers required in all large armies in the field—officers who need not necessarily be possessed of those scientific attainments which are imparted at West Point, but who, nevertheless, should be familiar with, and be able to instruct their troops in drill and discipline, immediately upon their entry on active duty. It would be found that the cost of maintaining this school would be infinitely less than the one maintained in the early part of the late war.

But, to reiterate, the States must provide for the expenses of their National Guard, as is clearly indicated by the facts shown in the foregoing summary. To induce some of them to do so will evidently require some action on the part of Congress, and to bring this about, the personal influence of the reader is solicited, as he has an equal interest in the matter, in common with every American citizen. F. C.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., September 14, 1871.

THE CONTEST OF BREACH-LOADERS.—In the interim between the decision of the State Commission and the issue of the new breach-loading arms to the National Guard the contest on the part of advocates of unsuccessful systems does not appear to slacken. So far as this circumstance is a legitimate feature of partisanship we find no censure for it, rather admiring the sturdy and honest persistence which clings to its belief in the merits of a particular gun; but in the degree that it descends to personality, assumes things to be facts without producing anything like proof, and ignores official denials of its own statements, it induces discordant sentiment in the ranks, and is certainly to be deprecated. Within the last two years the JOURNAL has published illustrated analyses of each of the guns that have been most conspicuous in the trial, and whenever a particular system has possessed a

documentary record we have likewise given this, in whole or in part, to our readers. We would commend a reference to our files of 1869, 1870, and 1871, to all members of the National Guard whose minds remain unsettled or who lack information as to the distinctive character of breach-loading systems. Farther than this, in justice to ourselves, we would likewise say that the several descriptions of systems which we have published were in each case carefully prepared papers by the owners or representatives of the arms, for which the JOURNAL assumed no responsibility, and that we have sedulously refrained from either particular praise or censure, simply giving place to the contributions above referred to, and to such official record as was obtainable.

With reference to the statements which certain of our contemporaries have published regarding the defaults of the Remington arm, in so far as they relate to its failure to meet one or more of the tests required by the board, it seems to us that a positive assertion of the facts, accompanied by sworn affidavits, should at once be made. Both General McQuade and Colonel Stonehouse have assured us that the representatives of the contesting guns were so well satisfied with the entire fairness that characterized the official conduct of the trials, that they volunteered to sign and publish a general acknowledgment. In view of this circumstance, something more than mere assertion of fraud on the part of a gun, or of favoritism on the part of the Commission, is obviously essential. In answer to some of the charges brought against their gun the Messrs. Remington have published the following letter:

BUREAU OF ORDNANCE, NAVY DEPARTMENT, }
WASHINGTON CITY, 25th November, 1871. }

Messrs. E. Remington & Sons.

SIR: In answer to your letter of this date, calling its attention to the article in the New York Times of the 24th inst., in relation to the Remington gun, the Bureau has to inform you that there is not a particle of truth in the statements relating to the arms furnished by you for the Navy. Not one single gun of the ten thousand (10,000) has been returned to the Springfield or any other armory "to be overhauled." On the contrary, six hundred (600) are now on board the ships of the Asiatic Fleet, and the guns have been supplied to every ship which has been commissioned since the deliveries commenced. Nothing in relation to these arms has transpired to shake the confidence of the Bureau in them—a confidence based upon the unanimous report of a board of officers who had subjected the system, and that of every other gun submitted, to a most searching examination and trial. The above statement also applies in full to the paragraph in the New York Tribune of the 17th inst., under the head of "Objections to the Remington Gun," to which you have also called the Bureau's attention.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

A. LUDLOW CASE, Chief of Ordnance.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, WAR DEPARTMENT, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25, 1871. }

E. Remington & Sons.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to your inquiry of the 25th inst., I have to inform you that the statements of correspondents in the New York Tribune of the 17th inst., and the New York Times of the 24th inst., to the effect that many of the Remington rifles issued for trial within the last six months "have been returned as entirely unserviceable," are not true in fact. The arms could not be turned in from the field without the knowledge of this Bureau.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. DYER, Chief of Ordnance, U. S. A.

THE WARD-BURTON CARBINE.—We have received the following letter in regard to the merits of this gun:

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Herewith you will find the record of a target of ten shots, made with a Ward-Burton carbine; calibre .50, at Springfield, on the 23d ult. It being the best ten shots from shoulder now on record at the National Armory, I hope you will find it of interest enough to publish. Respectfully,

J. F. WHIPPLE, Agent Ward-Burton Rifle.

WARD-BURTON CARBINE, CALIBRE .50, 100 YARDS' DISTANCE. NOVEMBER 23, 1871.

No of shots.	DISTANCES FROM CENTRE OF TARGET, IN INCHES.				DISTANCES FROM CENTRE OF IMPACT, IN INCHES.			
	VERTICAL.		HORIZONTAL.		VERTICAL.		HORIZONTAL.	
	Above.	Below.	Right.	Left.	Above.	Below.	Right.	Left.
1..	1.	....	....	....	1.25	....	.5	....
2..	.4	....	....	1.	.75	....	....	.6
3..	.4	....	....	.4	.75	....	....	.0
4..	....	....	....	....	.25	....	.5	....
5..	1.	....	1.	....	1.25	....	1.5	....
6..	....	.4	....	....	.25	....	....	1.5
7..	....	....	....	2.	....	.25	....	....
8..	....	2.	....	....	....	1.75	.5	....
9..	....	1.	....	1.	....	.75	....	.5
10..	....	1.4	....	.4	....	1.25	....	.0
	3.	5.5	1.	6.	4.25	4.25	3.	3.
	.25		.5		.85		.6	

Centre of impact, 66. Absolute deviation, 1.04.
Ward-Burton carbine; 100 yards, from shoulder; November 23, 1871; Frankford cartridge.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—Company K, Eighty-fourth Infantry, Captain James Douglas, on Monday evening held its eighth annual ball at the regimental armory. The ball was largely attended, and characterized by elegant toilets, courteous attentions, and last but not least, handsome decorations, the handwork of Messrs. Koster and Green. Good music, dancing, and joyous sociability were the chief features of the evening.....It is very evident that Captain Bird W. Spencer, the commandant of Company K, Ninth Infantry, despite the charges now pending and under investigation, has a few friends left, and those are where they perhaps would be least expected, under the circumstances, among the members of his company. This company, it seems, on Thursday evening turned out en masse and tendered a serenade to its commandant at his residence in this city.....General Ward, commanding First brigade, First division, and staff, held their second annual reunion and dinner at Delmonico's on Friday evening, December 9.....The Third brigade, First division, has established a court of appeals to hear the complaints of the different members of the brigade appealing from the decisions of regimental courts-martial. The court held its

first session on Monday evening at the armory of the Washington Gray Troop. Members of the Seventh and Ninth Infantry thus far form the majority of appellants.....We have received a lengthy communication from a writer signing himself as "H. E. Troop, Washington Grays," who takes strong exceptions to our remarks last week relative to cavalry not parading on the occasion of the Grand Duke's reception, laying particular stress on the alleged insult offered the Washington Grays, etc. It has always been our custom to allow any member of the National Guard full opportunity to correct any erroneous impression that may be given in these columns, even if in so doing we are ourselves assailed. We cannot, however, undertake to fight an opponent in the dark, and must have the name of our correspondent for our own information before publishing his communication.It strikes us forcibly that the Spencer court of inquiry is becoming tedious. It has now been in progress several weeks, holding two or more sessions a week, costing the State and those directly concerned more than will compensate for the time and money expended. Enough testimony has been already taken pro and con to decide whether the case is strong enough for a court-martial. The members of the court must not, however, gradually merge a court of inquiry into a court-martial before the latter is ordered. We have published in these columns considerable of the testimony produced at this trial, and if all this is again to be gone through with, it would have been more advisable to have ordered a court-martial for the trial of the accused at first. In either case the impression already created relative to the accused, from the testimony of the prosecution, is injurious, and must affect his standing in the National Guard, whether a court-martial is ordered or not. It was poor policy in the first instance to have ordered this court of inquiry; and if necessary that the conduct of any officer should have been investigated on the occasion of the July riot, the brigade commander should have commenced at the fountain-head, and placed the regimental commander on trial..... Company A, Fifth Infantry, Captain Koss, holds its annual ball at the Germania Assembly Rooms, Bowery, on the evening of December 14.....The ninth annual ball of Troop C, Third Cavalry, took place on the evening of the 7th of December at the National Assembly Rooms, West Forty-fourth street. The affair was pleasant and social under the management of Captain J. W. Haaren and an efficient committee.....The Unbekant court held its last session on Monday evening. The findings of the court have been forwarded to First division headquarters for approval, which will be published in orders.....Company E, First Infantry, Captain Langbein, hold an invitation hop at the regimental armory on Monday next.....One of the hard-working officers of the Forty-seventh, Mr. Wm. J. Powell, of Company D, was recently elected first lieutenant. His promotion has been rapid; he, however, is equal to the emergency, we imagine.At an election in Company I, Twelfth Infantry, Second Lieutenant Schwalbe was unanimously chosen as captain, and First Sergeant Storms second lieutenant, vice Schwalbe, promoted. Captain Wm. Raynor, at one time the capable commandant of the company, on the first ballot received the unanimous vote of the members, but upon his declining, the above choice was made. First Lieutenant Wilson, of this company, has resigned.Brevet Brigadier-General R. C. Bentley died at Albany Friday evening. General Bentley entered the service early in the war as adjutant of the Sixty-third New York regiment, and was subsequently promoted to be major and lieutenant-colonel of the same regiment. He was wounded in the arm at Antietam, and in the head at Gettysburg. He was brevetted for gallant services. His death, in the forty-first year of his age, was the result of exposure in the Army. He was buried on Monday, the Twenty-fifth regiment of the National Guard participating in the ceremony....The drum corps of the Sixth Infantry on Tuesday evening held at the regimental armory its first annual ball, and despite the coldness, outside and in, had a happy time....The drummers of the Twelfth held a calico hop at the regimental armory on Wednesday evening, and near by, on the same evening, the members of Company K, Seventy-first, Captain Cox, held a reception at its armory, which was graced by many elegant toilets and happy participants....Lieutenant William V. Shaw, of Company D, Twelfth Infantry, has resigned....Major Doran, of the Sixty-ninth Infantry, at last report was still dangerously ill and not expected to recover....The officers of the National Guard, as a rule, were particularly excluded from the grand balls given in honor of the Duke Alexis in Brooklyn and New York; at least but few received the compliments of an invitation. This was particularly noticeable where least expected—at the naval ball, where even general officers were not complimented in this respect. The National Guard in this vicinity, at any of their many select receptions given, never neglected officers of the Regular service, and if any portion thereof was particularly favored, it was the Navy. We have at all times recommended this course as a means of opening more friendly relations between the Regular and Volunteer forces of the country, and have seen the good effect thereof. The Army has reciprocated as far as the limited number of occasions has offered, but the Navy, when it had a grand opportunity, unfortunately forgot it....The First Cavalry is and has been for some time past in a demoralized condition, in consequence of a general disagreement among its officers. Its commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Madden, however, only adds fuel to the fire when he attempts to rebuke an officer by incorporating in an order calling a special meeting of the officers of the regiment for the purpose of finishing the business of a former meeting, a sentence like the following: "Postponed on account of the failure of Major Timmerman, secretary, to bring or send the books to the armory." Any officer who so far forgets his position as to openly injure the name and position of another by such means, fails to properly comprehend the duties of a good soldier. If the secretary of the meeting was neglectful of his duties, his excuse should have been received, and if not acceptable to the board of officers he should have been made to vacate for some person who would attend to the duties involved. But the method employed by Lieutenant-Colonel Madden is not only in bad taste, but entirely unwarranted.

THE STORY OF THE MEGARA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Daily News* recently interviewed a stoker belonging to the unfortunate English frigate *Megara*, as he and other witnesses for the official investigation were on their way to report. The following is the stoker's story, as it dropped from his lips, the result being a graphic and idiomatic narrative:

Between Queenstown and the Cape we had a good fair voyage, the ship averaging eight to nine knots. The weather mostly was splendid; I think, on my soul, that God Almighty in His mercy picked the weather for us on purpose. The ship was low in the water, and always cumbered with overcrowding and stores—it never seemed as if it were possible to get everything snug and shipshape, try how you would. After we left the Cape on the 28th of May, the weather, although it looked threatening sometimes, still stood to us like a brick, and on the 7th and 8th of June, we lay our course famously, running under doubled-reefed taw'sles and courses before a regular snorer—a strong sea on, and the whole water now and then coming tumbling aboard of her. It was that same day that we overhauled the Frenchman, and in the afternoon a marine was washed overboard. The very next day (the 9th) we sprung a leak, a devil of a big leak too, for the water came in so that it took the pumps all their time to keep it under. Some of the chaps swore that the sodger, as he went to the bottom, had sent his knee through one of the plates; others would have it that he stuck his bayonet in her, but that couldn't have been, because the man didn't take his bayonet overboard with him. All hands at the pumps, and, by good luck, there being plenty of pumps, we managed to keep the leak a bit under. It wasn't to be found no how. It was a time, I can tell you. A gale of wind, the old b— deep in the water, and rolling taw'sle yard stun'sle booms under at every second roll; all hands, blue jackets and marines, working their hearts out at the pumps, always wet, and not a chance to get dry. Day and night it was alike, till after three days of it the men were fairly beat out, and we had to take to the fire-engine and the donkey-engine to keep the water down.

It was Jock Brown, "Scottie" we call him, that found the leak. Scottie is one of the leading stokers. It was on the night of the 13th June. He had the first watch in the engine-room, and had to report the state of the pumps every half hour to the officer of the watch. Scottie took it into his head to find the leak if he could. The bunkers had been in the way of a search round about below them; it would have been necessary to shift the coals from port to starboard and then back again, and hands could not well be spared. But Scottie got about the bilges by the beam on which the bunkers rest that crosses the ship above the midgirder. Scottie shoved his head down one hole and his light down another, and there in one of the plates under the bunkers—not under the engines—was the water coming streaming in like a water-spout. He called the officer of the watch and told him he had found the leak. "Where?" shouts the officer. "Come and I'll show you." Mr. — came, and had a long look for himself, head down one hole, light down another, and then goes and rouses up the "Old Man." The Old Man comes double-quick, lies down, we had spread a mat for him—and bides a long time with his head out of sight. At last he comes up to the surface, and turning to the stoker on duty, says:

"Have you called Mr. Mills?"

"No, sir," says the stoker, "he has not turned in for three nights before, and I was giving him a chance."

"Call him at once," says the Old Man.

I was sent for Mr. Mills. Mr. Mills is the chief-engineer. Up the passage by the sentry handy the wheel I went and called him. "Leak found, sir!"

It was not many minutes before Mr. Mills and the Old Man had their heads together. They consulted for a spell, and then the word was "Fetch Jamie Hares, the artificer." Then the ratchet brace was sent for, and a piece was to be drilled out of a girder that was in the way so as to let a man's hand in to reach the hole in the plate. I'll finish off the yarn of the leak before I talk about anything else. An inside sheeting of gutta-percha clapped fast with a hot shovel was first tried, but that was stove in as soon as the ship got way on her, and the water began to press harder on her outside. Then Bell, the diver, he belongs to the *Excellent*, went over the side, and brought up word that the skin of the ship was like a rotten honey-comb. It was not so nonsensical after all for the chaps to hold that the sinking marine sent his knee through the plate, for Bell said he could send the heel of his boot through it with quite a moderate kick. He went down with a plate for the outside, while a corresponding plate was clapped on inwardly, holes drilled in the original plate, and a trial made to screw the outer and inner plates down to it. But, Lord bless you, the infernal thing was so thin and worn that the nuts could not be screwed home, and so the jury plates could not be fastened down. And besides, the bottom was so rotten that the new plates stuck onto it by the screws, and working loosely as they did for want of purchase for the rivets, threatened every minute as if they would tear the old plate right out. There's a bit in the Bible somewhere about putting new wine into old bottles. Here was the same thing for all the world, and the new iron was too strong for the old, rotten, spongy iron, honey-combed with rust. My own amazement is how the old tub could have kept going so long without her engines tumbling through the ship's bottom. "By G—, chum," put in here the "silent member," who had as yet only come out strong in consuming his grog, and nodding vigorous confirmation to the statement of his comrade, "By G—, chum, it hicks me how the bottom itself did not tumble clean away from the ship!"

The leak and the rotten plates were bad enough; but perhaps the worst was to come. The girders or ribs—I see you know little about a ship, sir—are the frame or skeleton of the ship, the iron plates bolted on to them, and to one another, being the skin. A ship is just like an open umbrella, the whalebones are the girders or ribs;

the silk—"gingham it may be, sir," puts in the "silent member" rather disparagingly, as it seemed, as to my familiarity with a silk umbrella, "the silk is the skin. These girders are about eighteen inches apart. On four of them rests the step of the mast—in other words, on these four girders, two forward and two aft of the step, there comes nearly the whole weight of the heavy mast, with all that belongs to it. This weight is so distributed as to spare any one single girder, for it is, I tell you a severe and sudden trial when a ship is suddenly taken aback, and then the downward push of the mast on to its bed is very great. Well, sir, one of the leading stokers—on the 18th of June I think this was—found that these four girders, instead of supporting the step of the mast, as they should have done, had decayed and rotted away for a good distance all around the step, so that the mast actually rested and leant all of its weight not on the ribs of the ship, but on its thin and weak skin. You see that there pillar, sir. Well, I reckon, that if you were to cut away the flooring you find it resting on a good sturdy cross-beam; or mayhap, its weight distributed over three or four. But suppose there were no cross-beams—or that they were all rotten, and that the pillar rested its own weight and all the weight it supports on the thin planking of the floor, I reckon you'd neither care about being upstairs or down stairs. Well, there ain't any down stairs at sea, only the bottom, and how we are here to-night instead of there has amazed me more than tongue can tell ever since I saw the step of that mast.

"It hicks me hollow, sir, as I may say," put in the silent member.

"With all that weight on these rotten plates," continued the other, "what possessed the mast that it did not go right slap through, I can't ever tell; if the ship had been taken aback it must have gone through just as a circus rider jumps through a paper hoop. But as it was the weight, although it had not made a hole, had borne so on the plates that the bottom had bulged down, and gone clean away from the rotten remnants of the girders. The man that discovered this state of things was a very quiet, cautious fellow, who didn't like putting himself forward, so he got hold of a chap named C—, a noisy, blabbing kind of chap, who he was sure would have it all over the ship in no time. 'What d'ye want?' says C—. 'Come and look at this,' says the other. C— went, and after a bit of a look we heard his roar, 'By G—, the bottom's gone from the girders!' C— makes a rush for the chief engineer. 'Where's this d—d place?' asked he, when, puffing and blowing—he is stout, is the chief engineer—he got down. He was shown it, and the quiet man told him about having found it, and got a jacketing for not having come direct and reported it at once. 'Do you wish us all to go to the bottom at any minute?' was the question of the chief engineer. The captain was fetched, and made a close examination. I once knew a chap so bad in consumption that he said he was spitting himself bodily away as he walked. Blessed if the *Megara* warn't, after a fashion, spitting herself away as she steamed. The suction of the pumps was like the poor fellow's cough; it fetched pieces of the rotten girders up the pumps, and so out into the sea. But the fragments of her pretty well choked the pumps at last, for the Old Man found them obstructed with a lot of the old iron that had not gone up the spout. Ten minutes after his inspection was over, the ship was condemned.

You'll search the navy over, sir, before you'll find a better seaman or a truer officer than our Old Man. "By —, sir, he's in the right on't it there," interpolated the silent member. You should have heard him reading prayers that Sunday forenoon. There warn't a shake in his voice, no more than if he were going below presently for a glass of sherry, instead of having it on his mind to tell his ship's company that his ship might go down at any moment. He ain't much a speaker, ain't the Old Man, but his words got pretty nigh men's hearts that day. He told us how that "the ship's bottom was literally dropping out," and then bade us go in with a will like men and British sailors. We gave him three cheers, and then we went at it, and started out a considerable lot of grub that Sunday afternoon and evening.

But with the night came dirty weather. She began dragging her anchors, and at length they parted two of them, and we had to get up a full head of steam to keep the ship off the rocks. The wind was so strong that the old ship—she was always a crabbed, awkward — at minding her helm—once yawed right round, and was going stem on upon the breakers. The captain got her out of this trouble by going full speed astern, but there she was, right out of hand, only one anchor left, and deep water under her, where not a soul could have been saved had she foundered. Boats? the boats could not have lived over the bar. And what a lot of boats she had! Why, sir, some of them were as old as herself, and there was not accommodation in them for above two-thirds of those on board.

So the skipper gave the word to run her on shore, and chance it. It was the afternoon of the 19th, about 1:30, that the word was given "All hands on deck," and the ship's head slewed round to the landward. The hands were ordered on deck so as to give them a chance should she strike the bar, as everybody feared. Half the crew were on the topgallant fo'k'sle, half aft, every man ready for a spring if she should break her back. Between the rollers and the sharks, I fear it would have gone hard with them. Where was I? Oh, below, for somebody had to keep the steam on. The stokers were forced to remain below. At least it warn't altogether force, but duty, sir, for we never thought to grumble, although we never thought to see the deck again. Orders were to get on a very strong head of steam. The glands were leaking, and I thought every minute the steam-pipe would go.

"Haden't we got souls to be saved, like the rest?" struck in the silent member. "They never so much as asked us to drink, but stuck us in the dangerousest place in the whole ship, and left us there to take our chance. My hair, I know, was standing straight on end."

"Why, don't own that you funk'd it, old chap?" said

the other, and then, turning to the writer, continued: But it was an anxious moment. We talked down there about things sailors don't often talk about. The engineer contended that, as we were down below on duty, and for the common good, we should be pretty sure of heaven if the burst-up should come. Then, as we neared the bar, we shook hands and parted, each man turning his face to the wall.

She cleared the bar, and took the ground beautiful. She went on the rocks as smooth and easy as if she had been an empty egg-shell. If she had been a sound, strong ship, her masts would have gone by the board with the shock, but she was so rotten that there was no shock, and the rocks came up through her as if her bottom had been of pie-crust.

Most of the marines went ashore on the 19th, but the general landing day was the 20th. That night everybody slept on the sod, wet as all were, for the most of the work was up to the waist in water. No mistake—officers and men went in manfully together. There was no favoring the rank that there time, for the rank scorned to be favored. All fared alike, and fared thundering rough, too, I can tell you. We began to be rationed on the short allowance on the 20th, six ounces biscuit, half a pound salt meat, half allowance of sugar and cocoa, and half a gill of "square." Afterward the bread ration was reduced to four ounces. In a day or two tents of one kind or other began to be rigged up, and some nights shelter was to be had. Working day and night, it was trying to have but a pint of water a day for the first week. Of the goats killed, the officers had a share as well as the men. The messman had a good quantity of stores of various kinds, which the men, during the voyage, might have of by purchase, but on the island he was not allowed to dispose of any more. By the way, these stores are left on the island, and we might as well have had a share of them. But then, it is true, the Old Man was not to know that we should be there for so short a time; and I don't doubt, as you say, sir, that he did everything for the best. I haven't an ill word to say against any officer of the ship.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

GREGG—MAR.—On Wednesday, November 29, at the house of the bride's cousin, Mr. Thomas Strawbridge, Lewisburg, Pa., General J. IRVIN GREGG, Colonel Eighth Cavalry, to Miss HATTIE MAR.

RODGERS—SPEED.—On November 1, 1871, at the residence of the bride's father, Louisville, Ky., Captain JOHN F. RODGERS, U. S. Army, to Miss AUSTINE SPEED, daughter of Philip Speed, Esq. (No cards.)

HANDY—ABBOT.—In Warren, R. I., November 30, at the residence of C. W. Abbot, Pay Director, U. S. Navy, by the Rev. L. C. Manchester, C. H. HANDY, Esq., to MARY, youngest daughter of the late Commodore Joel Abbot, U. S. Navy.

YOUNG—WILSON.—At the residence of the bride's parents, on Thursday, November 23, 1871, by the Rev. Henry M. Smith, COURTLAND H. YOUNG, to ROSA, only daughter of Charles Wilson, all of New Orleans. (No cards.)

PARKER—JENKINS.—In Washington city, Tuesday, December 5, 1871, Lieutenant WILLIAM H. PARKER, U. S. Navy, to Miss ELISE THORNTON, daughter of Rear-Admiral Thornton A. Jenkins, U. S. Navy.

DIED.

MCDONOUGH.—On Wednesday, November 30, at Montclair, N. J., Captain CHARLES S. MCDONOUGH, U. S. Navy, son of the late Commodore McDonough.

JONES.—At the U. S. Arsenal, Columbus, O., on Sunday morning, December 3, 1871, at 9 o'clock, Captain E. PENROSE JONES, Ordnance Storekeeper U. S. Army, aged fifty-four.

KING.—At Tompkinsville, Staten Island, on the 6th inst., EDIE, only son of Major Wm. R. and Jenny W. King, aged 2 years and 4 months.

H. N. SQUIRE,

No. 97 FULTON STREET, New York.
Is the best place to buy reliable Watches, fine Diamonds, and choice Jewelry, and Sterling Silver Ware.
DIAMONDS A SPECIALTY.

J. B. KIDDOO

(Brigadier-General U. S. Army, retired),
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
No. 192 BROADWAY (Room 15), New York.
Special attention given to the legal business of officers of the Army and Navy.

"LINDEN HALL."

Founded 1794.

MORAVIAN SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES.

REV. EUGENE A. FREULAUFF, Principal.

Lititz, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania.

This Institution offers the very best advantages to the daughters of Army, Navy and Marine Corps officers, not only for a thorough English education, but also, for instruction in Music, both vocal and instrumental, French, German, Drawing, Painting, etc., etc. Upwards of five thousand young ladies have been educated at this seminary (with but one exception the oldest in America) since its foundation, more than a quarter of a century ago.

In writing for Terms a favor will be conferred in mentioning that you saw this in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

OFFICE ACTING COMMISSARY SUBSISTENCE,

WILLET'S POINT, N. Y. H., December 3, 1871.

SEALED PROPOSALS, IN DUPLICATE, WILL be received at this office until 11 A. M., January 3, 1872, for furnishing the FRESH BEEF required by the Subsistence Department U. S. Army, for officers and men at this station, during Five months commencing February 1, 1872. A deposit of \$100 will be required with each proposal as a guarantee of good faith. Information as to conditions, payments, etc., can be obtained by application to
CHAS. E. L. DAVIS,
First Lieutenant, Corps of Engineers, A. C. S.

TRANSFER.—A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF ARTILLERY, ranking from 1868, desires to transfer with an officer of Infantry or Cavalry (Cavalry preferred) of equal rank. For information as to terms address ARTILLERY, care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

U. S. MILITARY POST LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.
Headquarters, 58 Broadway, N. Y. city. Organized for the purpose of assisting in the establishment of Libraries among the posts and stations of the U. S. Army. Please send for report and circular for information. Address JOHN B. KETCHUM, Corresponding Secretary, etc., as above.

\$20 BILLIARD TABLE—FULL-SIZED balls and cues. Quick Rubber Cushions. Very portable. Diagram mailed free. ABBOT & NICHOLS, 95 Liberty street, New York.